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April 1991

Newsletter 15

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Richard Arnold, Walter Koenig, Susan Sackett, Patrick Stewart, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Mark Lenard, John de Lancie, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly.

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Hi everyone, and a special 'hi' to Karen. She hasn't been well recently and we are sure you will all join us in sending best wishes. Get well soon, Karen, we miss you and we need you at UFP.

We would like to welcome all our new members. After the last newsletter went to the printer Janet panicked and increased the print run to 650 and we still ran out before the end of February. This time we are increasing the run to 700 and hope we will have some copies for UFP.

Linda Watt tells us that she recently saw the 4th season TNG episode Wounded and that Guy Vardaman was in Wesley's position. We are glad to know that Guy is fit again and back at work and we hope that he might get a more prominent part in TNG.

Special thanks to all of you who sent in items early for the newsletter this time as it meant Sheila could type quite a bit of it up, leaving Janet free to get on with the zines. We have three new zines out with this newsletter and we hope to have another three or four in time for UFP, so Janet still won't have time for much personal mail until after the next newsletter. Please bear with us.

I'm afraid we had some disappointing news from the Guide Dogs - it seems that Gracie has been rejected. They say that it does happen from time to time that a dog has to be rejected because there is a trait in its character which is not suitable for the type of work they train their dogs for. We have been allocated a new dog currently in training called Venus. We will keep you informed of Venus's progress and 'hopefully' when she qualifies we will let you have a picture of her.

We are carrying on and hoping to raise the money to sponsor a second dog. At UFP we will have a raffle and we will also be selling 'Trek' items in aid of the IDIC Guide Dog Fund so if you have any books, magazines, photos, tapes (professional copies only) etc. you no longer need and that you would be willing to donate please bring them along. If you are not going to UFP please send items to Sheila. We will accept items for personal sale as long as you donate 50% or more to the IDIC Guide Dog fund. Where you do want some money back for the items please price items clearly and keep two lists (with prices and your name and address), one to give to person manning the table and one for you to keep.

You have certainly sent us in a lot for this newsletter, some of which we have had to hold. The postbag section in particular has shot up to over 30 pages. We think most of you enjoy this section but if you think we should restrict its length (maybe to about 20 pages) rather than let it find its own length by all means let

us know. If we do have to restrict its length we would rather print letters on a first come first used basis rather than edit your letters - which would be difficult due to their diversity. Letters held over from one newsletter would not be used in the next one unless there was room or unless they made some new and important point. You can help by trying to keep your letters as short as possible - try to limit them to one page if at all possible.

We are also getting more book reviews in than we can use at the moment but where possible we will try to print at least one review from each member who sends them in. Please remember that reviews should be as objective as possible; if they are too subjective we may reject them.

When sending articles, if you enclose an SAE, after we have compiled the current newsletter we can let you know whether we've used your article, or, if we haven't, if and when we intend to use it. We have had several My Kind of Trek submissions this time. Those we haven't been able to fit in this time will be used next time.

We are beginning to make plans for a special newsletter to celebrate Star Trek's 25th Anniversary. This will probably be the August one since we don't have a September issue. We would like some articles about Star Trek and Star Trek fandom throughout its 25 years. If you have any ideas about what you would like to see in this newsletter let us know. Keep these ideas separate from any postbag or other submissions as they are for our information rather than for printing.

We were especially grateful to those of you who sent in submissions on disc this time and we have now purchased a 3 1/2" drive so that we can read any type of floppy disc, 3", 3 1/2" and 5 1/4". We use a BBC Master but we have a program which can also read many CP/M, MS-DOS and PC compatible discs so if you are using a computer please check and see if you might be compatible. The files must be ASCII Text files (most wordprocessors have an option to save this kind of file), not longer than 5 pages of text and saved straight to the disc (not buried in a directory). One point about PC compatible discs; we can read all formats up to 360K or 720K for a PC2 but not the high density 1 MB plus discs which some business computers use. With these computers there is usually an option to format a lower density disc. Send all discs to Janet with a hard copy if possible. If you have any queries regarding computers Janet is also the one to contact.

On a more negative note we have had a number of cheques from members bounce recently and when this happens the bank not only debits the amount of the cheque but also charges us £3.00 (£9.50 on a US dollar cheque). We are willing to accept payment by cheque but if it does bounce we will ask you to pay the £3.00 charges as well as the amount on your original cheque by postal order. While on the subject of cheques please do not send cheques for less than £1.00 (both IDIC and Scotpress have business accounts and we have to pay all charges, including a charge for paying in cheques). You can send small amounts in postage stamps - we always need those and can use any value up to and including £2!

Our thanks to Irene Ambrose, Sheila Cornall, Barbara Ellams, Jason Hart, Christine Hornby, Muriel Jarrett, Mark McLean, Ann Peters, Gloria Rigg, Barbel Schmidt, Melanie Siddle, Jenny Turner, Linda Watt and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending in information and/or cuttings.

Thank you to Teresa Abbott, Irene Ambrose, Claudia Baschke, Lynne Baxter, Sandy Catchick, Sandie Cayless, Sheila Cornall, Judie Dye, Maggy Edwards, Barbara Ellams, Sue Embury, Mark French, Kathleen Glancy, Avril Harker, Diane Haskin & the Sunday Height His and Her's Bowling League at Astro Bowl in Berlin, Vermont, Katrina Heintz, Michael Johnson, Sue Jones, Pippa Lightfoot, Pat Mitchell, Maria Muhiman, children from Murroes School (Tayside) especially Terri Briggs, Ann Peters, Lorraine Poole, Gloria Rigg, Cath Russell, Moira Russell, Ingrid Smith, Diane Somerville, John Spelling, Jenny Turner, Linda Watt, Helen White, Julie Woolaston, and everyone else who has sent in donations, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Apologies to anyone we haven't mentioned. Thanks to Sheila's Mum, Alison and Frances for their help in trimming

stamps.

There is another raffle in aid of the IDIC Guide Dog Fund in this newsletter. Jenny Turner won the registration for Silvercon that we raffled in N/L 13 but unfortunately is unable to use it, and asked us to re-raffle it. We're also offering in the raffle a set of Star Trek coasters (Kirk on them - all the same) and a 1991 Classic Trek calendar. Please indicate on your tickets if you will be unable to use the Silvercon registration. Tickets are £1 for the strip of 5; please send your tickets (and money, of course!) to Sheila or Janet by April 30th.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at UFP. We will arrange a meeting if possible as we would like to hear your views on the newsletter and where you think we could improve it, and we'd also like to hear your ideas for the special anniversary issue. If we don't manage a meeting you can usually find one or more of us at the table. We will be looking for volunteers to sell raffle tickets. The next newsletter will be out a little later than usual to allow us to include reports on UFP. The closing date for the next newsletter is May 15th so the newsletter is likely to be posted out around June 5th.

We are glad that the Gulf war is now over, albeit with the horrendous damage to Kuwait and the environment caused by Iraq. We are sure you join us in hoping for a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 10/3/91

LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

STAR-TREK on the BBC

The second season of TNG will commence screening on April 10th. (Info teletext 2/3/91 via Jason Hart).

Star Trek: The Next Generation screening dates and ratings - the figures are taken from Broadcast:

15	9/ 1/91 Angel One (14)	BBC 2 Rating: 5 - 4.03 million viewers.
16	16/1/91 11001001 (15)	BBC 2 Rating: 9 - 3.44 million viewers.
17	23/1/91 Home Soil (18)	BBC 2 Rating: 5 - 4.11 million viewers.
18	30/1/91 When The Bough Breaks (17)	BBC 2 Rating: 3 - 4.88 million viewers.
19	6/2/91 Coming of Age (19)	BBC 2 Rating: 5 - 3.99 million viewers.
20	13/2/91 Symbiosis (22)	BBC 2 Rating: 5 - 3.86 million viewers.
21	20/2/91 The Arsenal of Freedom (21)	BBC 2 Rating: 2 - 4.47 million viewers.
22	27/2/91 Heart of Glory (20)	
23	6/3/91 Skin of Evil (23)	

STAR TREK VI

From Enterprise America (Dec 1990)

There will be a STVI featuring the entire original cast. Nicholas Meyer has been signed to write and direct and Ralph Winter has signed as producer. Industrial Light and Magic has a tentative agreement to do the special effects. Projected date for principal photography, April 1991, completed by late June. Estimated release date: Christmas 1991.

According to FIB in their latest n/l, three guest actors have been signed for STVI. They are Whoopi Goldberg, Christian Slater, and Jack Palance as a Klingon.

"Trekking Again" Daily Record 22/2/91

This says the original cast of Star Trek have signed up for Star Trek - The Undiscovered Country. Filming of the £14 million movie will begin in April in Hollywood and Alaska. *[Now where have we heard that title before?]*

STAR TREK ON SKY

The Star Trek Animations - I don't know whether they are still being shown by the time you get this but try Sky One Saturday or Sunday mornings around 10.50 am.

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION - Fourth Season Episodes by Terry Griffiths.

Further 4th season episodes:

The following information is from Enterprise America:

Final Mission - After a shuttle crash Picard and Wesley are stranded on a planet and Picard is injured. (uplink 17/11/90)

The Loss (184) - Troi loses her empathic abilities while the Enterprise is trapped in the migration path of two dimensional aliens. (uplink 30/12/90)

Data's Day (185) - Data gives away the bride at O'Brien's wedding and makes a diary of a typical day for Bruce Maddox (Measure of a Man). Bev teaches Data to dance. (uplink 6/1/91)

The Wounded (186) - An uneasy peace between the Federation and the Cardosian race is set to be shattered by a Federation Captain who seems bent on war. (uplink 27/1/91)

Devil's Due (187) - A now-peaceful world is threatened by a female Devil. This script was originally written for the planned 70's Star Trek II series, and has been heavily rewritten by Michael Pillar. (uplink 3/2/91)

Clues (188) - After an alien attack, the Enterprise crew finds that the past 24 hours are missing. (uplink 10/2/91)

First Contact (189) - The Federation opens up negotiations with a planet that has recently developed warp technology, and Riker is kidnapped in the attempts to keep the channels open. (uplink 17/2/91)

Galaxy's Child (190) - The Enterprise unknowingly destroys a space creature (a la Lonely Among Us), whose offspring adopts the starship as its surrogate mother. (uplink 10/3/91)

Night Terrors (191) - An investigation into a strange disaster on a research station alters several of the Enterprise's crew's personalities, and Troi and Beverly lead a dangerous investigation into dream research and find that dream deprivation might be the answer. (uplink 17/3/91)

Identity Crisis (192) - An old friend of Geordi's, now a Starship Captain, undergoes a strange metamorphosis upon returning from a mission for the Federation. (uplink 24/3/91)

The following information is from Rec.Arts.Startrek on the Internet via Linda Watt (unofficial info):

Q Love (193) - Q taunts and teases Captain Picard by bringing back the woman Vash (The Captain's Holiday) but begins to fall in love with her. (uplink 30/3/91)

To The Nth Degree (194) - Lt. Barclay returns, but this time his social problem is excessively hyped-up intelligence. (uplink 20/4/91)

Paradise (195) - A Beverly Crusher story as she tries to cure people of a deadly virus - when they don't want her to. (uplink 27/4/91)

? (196) - (uplink 4/5/91)

Past Perfect (197) - Crusher is forced to recall her life with Jack because of some external (alien) pressure. (uplink 11/5/91)

Distant Relations (198) - Enterprise mediates for two supposedly warring worlds without knowing the fact that they have joined forces against Starfleet and the Federation.

STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops listed at the end of the newsletter or in the Merchandising column.

STARLOG 164 March 1991.

"Fantastic Voyages" 6 page article on Jerome Bixby who wrote several Star Trek episodes: Mirror, Mirror, By Any Other Name, Day of the Dove, Requiem for Methuselah (with Louise Sorel & James Daly). Bixby says he has written a sequel to Mirror Mirror for TNG; it is called Broken Mirror - he'll be sending it off to Paramount soon.

STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION 14 (Starlog)

Articles on Denise McCarthy, Music of Star Trek; Ron Jones, Sounds in Space; Sarek Speaks; Patrick Stewart on the 'messages of TNG' (short); O'Brien and Joanna Miles - Perrin (Sarek's wife).

Detailed transcripts of the following 3rd season episodes: Hollow Pursuits, The Most Toys, Sarek, Menage a Troi, Transfigurations, Best of Both Worlds and the 4th season opener Best of Both Worlds Part II.

TV ZONE 15 February 1991

Article on The Holodeck; Part Two of an interview with Michael Dorn; The Power Generation (an article about the Star Trek Powergen advert); Book Reviews - Demons by J M Dillard; Video Reviews - Plato's Stepchildren/Wink of an Eye 67/68, That Which Survives/Let That be Your Last Battlefield 69/70; Season 4 TNG episode guide, Best of Both Worlds Pt.2 - Legacy.

TV ZONE 16 March 1991

Article on The Klingons; Jonathan Frakes Directing; Book Reviews - Fortune's Light by Michael Jan Friedman (TNG), Ghost-Walker by Barbara Hambly; Video Reviews - Whom Gods Destroy/The Mark of Gideon 71/72; Season 4 TNG episode guide, Reunion - The Wounded.

STARBURST 150 February 1991.

"Gene Roddenberry The Tomorrow Person" 3 1/2 pages. Part 1 of an interview done with Gene when he was over here last October. There is also a short article on Gene's personal assistant, Ernie Over.

STARBURST 151 March 1991.

"Gene Roddenberry The Tomorrow Person Part 2" 3 pages. Part 2 of the interview done with Gene when he was in London last October. Gene talks about how with TNG they have freedom to write about politics, sex and religion. There is also a short article about Susan Sackett, Gene's Executive Assistant, in which she talks about her job and how she got it.

"Patrick Reaches for the Stars" Bella 1/12/90

Short article on Patrick Stewart.

"Kirk Beams up The Brolly Lolly" The Sun 16/1/91

Article about the Star Trek Powergen advert. This said it was filmed at Universal but more reliable sources, ie TV Zone, say it was filmed on the TNG sets at Paramount.

"More Power to the People" Observer 27/1/91

An article about Powergen with a still of Kirk from the Star Trek advert.

"Beam Me Up a Nice Profit, Scotty!" Weekend People 27/1/91.

Another article about Powergen and the Star Trek advert.

"Enterprise Culture" Punch 23-29 Jan 1991.

A review of TNG which refers to 11001001, which the reviewer didn't seem to like.

"Barnsley - The Final Frontier" The Guardian 1/2/91

Article about David and Linda Phillips of Barnsley Star Fleet.

"Set Phasers to Back-Stabbing" Today 7/2/91.

A review of TNG saying how it differs from classic Trek. The reviewer quite likes the changes but doesn't think teenagers will.

"Beam Me Up, Scottie" Bella 16/2/91

Article on Annette Neal, Janet Lawn and Margo White who run the 1701 AD Star Trek Club.

"Star Trek Ad Zapped by Labour"

Labour slammed the Government's Wonderwoman and Star Trek telly adverts promoting Powergen as a complete waste of money.

"Gays Get a Rocket" The Sun 6/3/91.

According to this article David Gerrold's script was rejected because "they won't have queer crewmen aboard the Star Ship Enterprise."

"Boldly Going too Far" Express 6/3/91.

Similar to above.

[Ed: In the interview in Starburst 151 Gene mentions David Gerrold's script *Blood and Fire* which was rejected - the script featured two Enterprise crewmen who were male, homosexual and in love. Gene said the script was rejected because it dealt with homosexuality as if it was present day with the pair being secretive. He said, "Homosexuals are not going to be like that once we get out of these generations. Homosexuality is normal, natural and it's perfectly wonderful for someone to seek gratification that way. David was keeping it in its Twentieth Century guise; it was silly.]

"Space Smasher Tasha Gets Star Wrecked" Daily Star 6/3/91.

An article about Tasha's demise in *Skin of Evil*. A BBC spokesman is quoted as saying, "The ratings for Next Generation have been terrific ..." The show is so successful the BBC have decided to run the second series straight on when the first ends in three weeks' time.

Look in 9/3/91

A TNG poster, plus character photos and snippets of info.

MERCHANDISE

compiled by Janet Quarton

BOOKS -

- | | | | |
|-----|---------|---|--|
| | P30 T43 | Demons by J.M. Dillard | Titan |
| | P53 T44 | Ghost-Walker by Barbara Hambly | Pocket Books & Titan |
| Mar | TNG16 | Contamination by John Vornholt | Pocket Books & Titan |
| Apr | P54 | A Flag Full of Stars by Brad Ferguson - the second book in The Lost Years Saga. | Pocket Books & Titan |
| May | TNG | Vendetta by Peter David | A TNG Giant Novel - the Borg return.
Pocket Books |

Due Next - subject to change: (info Enterprise America)

Reunion by Michel Jen Friedman TNG (May)

Renegade by Gene DeWeese Classic Trek (June)

Spartacus by Terri L Mancour TNG (July)

The War Virus by Irene Kress - Lost Years Saga. Classic Trek (August)

The ST:TNG Technical Manual by Michael Okuda and Rick Sternbach (Summer)

Star Trek : The First 25 Years by Gene Roddenberry and Susan Sackett. This large format coffee table book includes lots of new and never seen photos, plus many interviews with all the cast and of course, Gene. Due August. (info Susan Sackett)

Probe by Margaret Wander Bonnano is due to be published in Hardcover in the States in April. (info TV Zone 14)

VIDEOS

ST:TNG 1st season tapes are now being released at £9.99. The episodes have been recorded in their original form and not edited together as they were in the rental tapes.

11001001/TOO SHORT A SEASON (8)

WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS/HOME SOIL (9)

Due next.

COMING OF AGE/HEART OF GLORY (10)

THE ARSENAL OF FREEDOM/SYMBIOSIS

SKIN OF EVIL/WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS

CONSPIRACY/THE NEUTRAL ZONE

Original series tapes priced £9.99 in the shops or the same from Andromeda plus p&p.

67/68 PLATO'S STEPCHILDREN/WINK OF AN EYE

69/70 THAT WHICH SURVIVES/LET THAT BE YOUR LAST BATTLEFIELD

71/72 WHOM GOD'S DESTROY/MARK OF GIDEON

73/74 LIGHTS OF ZETAR/CLOUD MINDERS

Due next:

75/76 WAY TO EDEN/REQUIEM FOR METHUSELAH

77/78/79 SAVAGE CURTAIN/ALL OUR YESTERDAYS/TURNABOUT INTRUDER

Note: Melanie Siddle tells us that HMV in Leicester Square has increased the price of all ST videos to £10.99 while Virgin Megastore, Picadilly Circus still sells them at £9.99. We haven't heard of any other shops increasing the price to £10.99.

ST V - The Final Frontier CIC plan to release STV on sell-through next April/May.

Official Silver Anniversary Medal. Franklin Mint

The medal contains over 2,500 grains of sterling silver. On one side is a picture of Kirk, Spock and McCoy and the series Enterprise with the wording 'STAR TREK 25TH ANNIVERSARY 1988-1991, the other side includes a 1991 calendar highlighting the anniversary date. It is edge marked "To Boldly Go Where No Man Has Gone Before".

It is being issued as a limited edition, available only to the end of the anniversary year - December 31, 1991. Price £150 (@ £15 a month).

A fine pewter medal is also available for £39 (two instalments of £19.50. For an order form write to Franklin Customer Services, 138 Bromley Road, London SE6 1BP.

TREKCOLLECTIBLES P.O. Box 519, Cape Girardeau, Missouri 637, U.S.A. Out of print Star Trek books, comics, records and tapes. Send a couple of IRCs for list.

ACTOR INFO

compiled by Janet Quarton

William Shatner: On 2nd February William Shatner's Scottish fans were faced with a very difficult choice when his films Barbary Coast (series pilot) and Broken Angel were scheduled on STV and BBC1 respectively at almost same time. Luckily Broken Angel was brought forward to 11.00 pm and finished before Barbary Coast started.

Patrick Stewart: Articles in the Daily Mirror 15/2/91, Today 16/2/91 and Sunday Mirror 17/2/91 state that Patrick Stewart is separated from his wife Sheila

and that he is having an affair with 24/32 year old actress Jennifer Hetrick who worked on LA Law.
[Jennifer Hetrick played Vash in the third season TNG episode, Captain's Holiday.]

Marina Sirtis: "Enjoying A Warp On The Wild Side" Daily Mail 18/1/91
 Article about Marina with colour photos of her and Michael Lamper. They plan to marry.

JAMES HORNER AND HIS MUSIC

by Mike Mullen

James Horner was born in America and started playing the piano at the age of 5. He moved to England 3 years later because of his father's job. Whilst in this country he studied music at the Royal Conservatory in London. After 10 years here he returned to the U.S.

He gained a B.A. in Musical Composition at the U.S.C. and then transferred to U.C.L.A. where he earned his Masters. Upon doing this he sought and got a teaching position at U.C.L.A. whilst further studying for a Doctorate.

A chance call from the American Film Institute introduced James to film scoring. This came at the same time as his growing disillusion with Academia. He worked on 6 or 7 films for the AFI (including The Drought) before finally giving up his academic career for film scoring.

He then struggled for a while writing scores for small films before eventually meeting with Roger Corman. This resulted in his first big-name musical scores, including Battle Beyond the Stars.

James Horner was introduced to Harve Bennett and Nicholas Meyer by Joel Sill (head of Paramount music at the time) as an up and coming young film composer. Both men took to him quickly and he was soon hired to do the music for Star Trek II. He was asked to do the film 2 weeks before filming was due to be wrapped. This film was edited as it was shot and he was hired 4 weeks before he had to start writing. The first scoring sessions were held 4 1/2 weeks later.

He did not listen to any of the music from the series or the first film, preferring to use his own ideas, and the input from Nicholas Meyer. This resulted in what many see as a nautical feel to the soundtrack. After an initial decision not to use any recognisable Star Trek theme he eventually decided to incorporate the Fanfare and now recognises this as a wise decision as it provides a hook for the viewer to instantly know they are watching a Star Trek film.

When scoring for Star Trek III, he had a longer time scale to work on the film as this went through a long editing process. Many of the themes first used in Star Trek II were developed and the score is more rounded. The music is more low-key to reflect the feeling of the film.

Since the Star Trek films James has worked on a number of films including; Aliens, Willow, Cocoon 1 & 2, Name of the Rose and Something Wicked This Way Comes. His most recent work includes Field of the Dreams for which he received an Academy Award nomination and 2 Grammy nominations. He has also scored Another 48 Hours and Love You to Death.

His Star Trek music is now a classic and he is well known and respected for his work in the Science Fiction and Horror film area of the music industry.

POSTBAG

Please send in your letters of comment and discussion for this section - the more the merrier. If possible could you word your letter for printing or at least indicate that it is meant for the n/l. Please remember that the reader may not have the last newsletter, or have it to hand, so when referring to anything in previous letters make it clear what you are talking about.

Sue Richardson:

As one of the latest members in the IDIC fold, I thought I'd write in to say I've just spent two hours engrossed in reading my first newsletter (No. 13). It is, as an advert for one of the grubbier tabloids says: "A right riveting read."

The sun is shining through the window, showing up all the dust and finger marks on the furniture but what the heck! - the dust will still be there when I've finished writing this.

I'm not exactly new to Trekdom but this is the first time I've joined a Star Trek fan club and written in.

The original series sort of hung around when I was growing up, but my interest in it this time came in quite a round-about way. As a long-standing fan of Patrick Stewart I watched the video "Encounter at Farpoint" and got hooked. I then turned to the original series and got doubly hooked!

Having fallen in love with a pair of pointed ears I've stayed faithful ever since. I'm what I regard as being a "closet Trekkie". I enjoy my preoccupation with all things "Trek" in solitary isolation.

Perhaps I should come out, put my Enterprise T-shirt on and truck on down the High Street with my plastic Spock ears on. No, maybe not, people think I'm weird as it is. Workmates regard me as someone from another planet when it becomes known that I am a "Trekkie".

Having the mickey taken out of me is something I'm used to. I endure all the jibes and jokes with a Vulcan mien. I am what I am. Spock would be proud of me.

Visitors to my humble home bang their heads on my inflatable Enterprise hanging in the hall and I see the "Oh, no, not one of those" expression cross their faces.

They are disappointed that my budgie isn't called "Spock".

I'd like a pet sehlat, but the landlord wouldn't appreciate it (nor would the local moggies). Before this letter rambles on for too long and gets trashed, I'd like to say I'm glad I joined IDIC, and look forward to a long and happy association with you all.

Finish with a joke or two.

1) Why do you bury Klingons twenty feet down? Because deep down they're really nice people!

2) Why are there only two pall bearers at a Romulan funeral? Because there are only two handles on a dustbin.

Live long and prosper from a thirty-something mutant Ninja Trekkie!

Sue Embury:

Well, the androids' rights debate has certainly produced some interesting dialogue! Since I've already had a big say on the subject I'll restrict myself to replying to a few points folk have raised.

Lesley Hatch - I think you misunderstood what I was trying to say about Johnny Five. Yes, I agree he was obsessed with survival - that's just it! After the lightening strikes, Johnny Five is alive. At least, that's what the whole movie kept on telling us, and I was accepting that portrayal as true for the purposes of the discussion. In other words, you have to be aware of living in order to fear death.

Steve Lake - I agree with your arguments set out in "What a Piece of Work is Data...?" but may I point out that it was supposedly the awakening of *emotions* which killed Flint's Rayna. Whether this is credible or not, the idea is still current in Star Trek story telling. In The Offspring, the fate of Data's creation is in some ways similar to that of Rayna Kopek. In this episode we are given an intriguing insight into Data's personality, and one which suggests he does indeed have the urge to reproduce his own kind (one of the essential criteria for living things) but I still think that self awareness is the single most important (and most complex) consideration.

Helen White - thank you for your agreement on that point, and yes, I see your point about soul, whatever that is. I guess I'll go along with your definition along the lines of personality, and as far as that goes, I think Data has a very well defined (male) personality. In fact I find him one of the most interesting personalities in TNG. (I don't want him written off!)

There's another thing I agree with you on. I too like Spock's Brain! I have always thought it hilarious and rate it second only to Tribble Trouble as light comedy Trek. I particularly admire the cast for managing to play it straight, and yet still keep their tongues so firmly in their cheeks - that's how I always see it anyway.

Other favourite episodes of mine: City on the Edge..., Amok Time, The Deadly Years (great performance by De Forest Kelly), Enemy Within, both the Paradise episodes, Devil in the Dark, The Doomsday Machine. That last one contains some of my favourite scenes, where Spock confronts Commodore Decker on the bridge. Leonard Nimoy plays all the later scenes with that communicator thingy stuck in his ear. By rights, a pointed eared alien with an aerial sticking out of his head ought to be comical, but I never feel the urge to laugh (unlike Spock's Brain). All credit to Mr. Nimoy for making it work as a serious dramatic moment. Also in that episode, I love the ultra suspenseful transporter rescue of Kirk at the very end, with Scotty swearing at the circuitry in the jeffries tube.

Other favourite scenes: the last orders tape in Tholian Web, Spock/McCoy jail scene in Bread and Circuses, Kirk and Shana's "watch the lights in the sky" from Gamemasters of Triskelion, Spock finding Kirk alive at the end of Amok Time, and many others too numerous to mention.

I still haven't seen enough TNG to choose many favourite bits, but recently I did enjoy the dinner party scene with Majel Barrett in Haven, especially Data's "Would you please continue with the petty bickering?" Much later, in season three, Q's nude entrance on the bridge in Deja Q has to be among the all time greats! Wonderful though nude Q appearances may be, I must add my voice to the chorus of disapproval over TNG women, or rather the lack of them. We really ought to get a better deal after 25 years of real time and a whole generation has passed in Trek time.

To return to classic Trek, I'm now looking forward to STVI with high hopes. Nicholas Meyer has done some good work in the past (perhaps I could say time after time) and I believe he is a good choice for director this time around. As to the plot, the Spock love story seems to be the only element which is consistently quoted in all the previews. I think it's about time Spock had another amorous outing. I cannot believe that Paramount would close their still very lucrative options by killing off any of the major characters, although it seems likely that this is intended to be the last movie. I cling to hopes that there could be second thoughts about that. I wonder how many other fans would be content, as I would,

with more modest ST movie productions; perhaps something with fewer costly SFX, not quite so many budget consuming alien crowd scenes etc. Is there anything intrinsically wrong with say, a modest TV movie designed for prompt video sell through? A good story without too many multi million dollar sets (just look what Powergen can do! I loved it!) would be cheaper to make, and yet would be greatly appreciated and faithfully supported by many fans: - by this one anyway. What do other people think?

Michael Simpson:

I realise now a mistake in my 'Farpoint' article. Worf's sneeze was not, of course, in The Naked Now, it was in Angel One!

In response to Janet's request to hear of other people's favourite episodes, amongst mine from the original series I would include Charlie X, A Piece Of The Action, The Changeling, Devil In The Dark, Space Seed, Errand Of Mercy and Operation Annihilate. Of TNG, (I haven't seen any 4th Season and only a 3rd of the 3rd), I would list Where No One..., The Big Goodbye, We'll Always Have Paris, Elementary Dear Data, Measure Of A Man, The Defector, The Enemy, Yesterday's Enterprise, Deja Q and The Offspring. If I were to name some I am most looking forward to seeing I would say The Bonding, Best Of Both Worlds, Q-Who, Remember Me, Pen Pals and The Offspring again!

I am somewhat amazed at how the BBC can hope to attract an audience to TNG with the inadequate and often wholly inaccurate synopses they print in the Radio Times. It is absurd that the channel's own publication is showing little more regard for fact and accurate detail than some sections of the press. The Big Goodbye, we were told, had Captain Picard's life threatened in 1930s Chicago. Not a mention of the Holodeck anywhere! Symbiosis, it declares, has the Enterprise caught in the middle when two alien races wage a battle. There is no mention of battle between the two races concerned in any part of the episode, either in their present behaviour towards each other or in their history. Were the BBC afraid to mention that the episode was about drugs? If so why show it at all? Or perhaps they consider that the mentality of the show's audience is such that any hint of an episode in which there is virtually no action at all will result in a mass switching over to the other side. One is certainly inclined to suspect that even after 25 years the BBC still does not know what kind of an audience the show attracts. Perhaps we should be grateful that we now at least get a cast photo virtually every week. But who, for goodness sake, is Michael Domdorn? And what problems does Worf, specifically, face in Arsenal Of Freedom? It sounds to me as if someone has got that one mixed up with Heart Of Glory. Still, I suppose that is understandable. After all, that particular episode should have been shown after Coming Of Age instead of Symbiosis.

Russell Witheyman:

I am writing to say how much I have enjoyed TNG on BBC2. I did criticize the show for not being up to par with original Trek but since then I have become very fond of it. The majority of the episodes have been good so far and I'm looking forward to the forthcoming seasons which apparently get better. I think the best episodes so far are The Battle, Where No One Has Gone Before, Too Short A Season and Heart of Glory. The only really dodgy episodes so far have been Code of Honor (terrible episode) and the pilot, Encounter at Farpoint. I do also hope that the BBC stick with showing TNG. There have been so many foreign series that when ratings have dropped slightly they give up; namely Knight Rider (ITV) and several others. I also think the BBC should put it on around a mid evening time slot. I do get in from work in time for TNG but I am a bit rushed. Also the ratings would go up considerably if the Beeb put TNG on at a reasonable time.

I was quite impressed with the viewing figures for TNG. I think the only programme that's beating it at the moment is Twin Peaks which is also brilliant. I have also seen quite a lot of ST actors cropping up on various films, TV shows etc recently, namely LeVar Burton in Roots, Denise Crosby in the movies Skin Deep and Pet Semetary, Wil Wheaton in a horror film called The Curse, Jonathan Frakes in a couple of episodes of The Waltons and William Shatner in a TV film called Broken

Angel.

To Kathleen Glancy: Thank you for your comments about my piece on William Shatner being a good director on STV, but what I meant was Bill put in a lot of hard hours for the film and his dedication and hard work paid off. I have watched the film more than once and the direction was good. I have seen many good films where direction has been lacking and have thought to myself "that could've been done better" but Bill's work was good and competent and I would like to see any other of his directorial projects in the future. He's no Frances Ford Coppola or Martin Scorsese but he is good.

I'd also like to say the ST Animations (as mentioned in N/L 14) are also repeated on the Sunday at about 9.45 - 10.00 am on Sky One. The episode I caught was Mudd's Passion and it was shown about 10.00am. So it is best to tune in between 9.45 - 10.00 am because times of previous programmes may vary.

Having never seen any of the ST cartoons before I found it highly enjoyable. It was great to hear the original cast doing the voices. The only flaw with the series is the slightly dodgy animation, otherwise it was great.

Could anyone confirm that the BBC has bought series 3 & 4 of TNG.

[Janet: I couldn't remember whether Peter Fryer said the animations were on Saturday or Sunday. As to TNG we have heard the BBC have bought the rights to the first three seasons.]

Helen White:

To Kathleen Glancy: I loved your comments re JTK becoming a monk. I can just imagine! Also, I agree with you about the Stars and Stripes in The Omega Glory, or at least I did until I read Janet's comment on your letter. I must say though, I think the fact that it was a real flag, so-to-speak, distracted me. If it had been a 'new' flag, I wouldn't have thought twice about Spock standing up to salute it.

To Clair Roberts: First of all, thanks for your reply to my letter. I look forward to meeting you too; are you going to UFP '91? Mind you, you may not want to meet me when you've read the next bit!

Re your comments on STV: I've read 'The Making Of...' twice, and I do appreciate that poor old Bill had far more than his fair share of trouble, particularly from our 'friend' Paramount. It's nothing short of crass stupidity to allow someone to make a major feature film and then get cold feet about it and cut the budget in such a drastic fashion. However, also from reading 'The Making Of...', I can only say how relieved I am that Leonard and De had a say in what ended up in the script... as it is, some pretty awful bits crept in; I mean to say, those highly technical chaps, the Vulcans, giving birth in a cave? Naaah! Having said that, there are some excellent bits - it's a real curate's egg (for those as don't know, this is a reference to an ancient Punch cartoon, in which a young curate, eating with his bishop, gets a bad egg, and on being asked whether said egg was to his liking, replied, 'Parts of it are excellent, My Lord.!!!') And no, I couldn't do a better job myself (I regret to say), but then I've never claimed to be a director! Anyhow, I hope that I haven't made you too annoyed: I just had to comment.

To Lloyd Lewis: Actually I was referring to the 'official' TNG crew when I made my remark about the new uniform making them look heavier (tact, as I said at the time), and particularly to Riker. Actually, none of them looks like a fat b--d, as you put it, they just look cuddlier. Ahhh! I certainly wasn't intending to be libellous about any of my fellow fans! (I'm sorry, I won't call them 'fen', I think it's a silly word!)

I had hysterics over your idea for the Traveller meeting Kirk - I can just imagine it. There are times when I really wish that I could write fiction... Incidentally, watakushi mo Nihongo o natatte imasu! (for non-Japanese-speaking

reader, don't worry, it's not some dire insult! It means, 'I'm learning Japanese too.') Thanks for your comment on Trek it Lucky at T'Kon - it was great fun, wasn't it? (By the way, Jo doesn't have an 'e'!) I agree with what you said about health, too - as you say, if you don't have that, you're well and truly stuck.

To Steve Davies: I'm another one who finds it a tad strange having five commanders and two captains (or, with some schools of thought, three commanders and four captains) on the bridge of a single starship. Overmanning, I think! Still, I agree with you, it would be great fun if Spock were promoted over Kirk - sounds like a good idea for a story.

To Janet: I agree with you re. IDIC; I too consider that it applies to all creation. And yes, different cars do handle differently! My favourite episodes are as listed in 'My Kind of Trek' article, but if I'm allowed more than five of each series, the rest of my favourites are as follows: The Naked Time, Devil In The Dark, Amok Time, The Apple (it's funny), Bread and Circuses, A Piece of the Action and Spock's Brain (not just funny, hysterical) and then (TNG) Haven, Datalore, 11001001, Arsenal of Freedom, A Matter of Honor, Q Who?, The Emissary and Menage a Troi.

To Kari M John: Re your comment on the story in Enterprise Log Entries 82, One Way to Hell, which you called 'cruel, sinister and disturbing'. I really like hurt/comfort stories, preferably with Spock at the receiving end, and to a certain extent, the more 'hurt' the better, although as Janet says, you can do a lot with a fever. Until I read your comment, I hadn't thought about *why* I like them so much; however, after literally hours of pondering the matter, I think I can tell you the reason:-

Aggression in any form, whether in myself or someone else, terrifies me, and I react either by stamping down hard on my feelings rather than express them, even though I know perfectly well that this isn't at all healthy, or I go on the defensive, go 'hyper', and become very very snappy and irritable, which upsets me even more than the original triggering incident/feeling did, to say nothing of the people around me: I'm sure that this is a major reason for my bouts of depression. It might seem rather odd then, that I enjoy stories about what is often aggressive behaviour, but in fact I find that they help me to cope with my feelings. They say to me in effect, 'well, people may be extremely vicious and horrible to each other, or life may deal them some dreadful trial, but other people are there to help them through it'. In effect, I find them reassuring.

I hope that the above makes some sort of sense to you; at any rate, it's as close as I can get to explaining it clearly.

To Edward Woo: I've just been watching the last few episodes of the third season of TNG, and I thought that Deanna Troi had her fair share of action, notably in Hollow Pursuits, which is great fun. You and Sue Embury and Michael Simpson are certainly right about her early appearances though; she does little but drift around looking very sincere.

I don't agree with you about Dr Crusher, I'm afraid, the woman has no sense of urgency; for example, in an episode that I recently watched, (I think it was Transfigurations, but I wouldn't swear to it) the main guest character collapsed in a heap, and one of the other Med staff called her to come and help, whereupon she just sauntered in as if she was just doing her normal rounds. Certainly she's a lot better now than she was in season one, but she still annoys me! As to why Doctor McCoy got such a big part in original Trek - well, obviously the chemistry between the characters was right, but also he comes across as a much more professional type of person. I would trust Bones (or for that matter, Pulaski) to treat me if I was ill, but I wouldn't feel happy with Bev. In a way, it all boils down to one's personal preferences.

On a subject that seems to appear on and off in the Postbag, about the lack of major female roles, I have to disagree with the view that everyone who's written in

so far shares. I really don't care what sex someone is: it has little or nothing to do with how they perform their job, after all. If I were interviewing a man and a woman for a job, I would pick the one best suited to the position. Saying that there should be more women there just to balance the crew strikes me as reverse sexism!

With regard to the rest of the n/l, I enjoyed the 'My Kind of Trek' articles - it's always fun to find out about other people's view of Trek - and it was very interesting to see the German versions of the TNG episode titles.

Marcia Pecora:

To Richard Drinkwater (N/L 14): I couldn't agree more with you about the next (and last) Star Trek film. "Let's see what she's got" is what Kirk said at the end of STIV - well, we ain't seen it yet! Let's get all our well-known and well-loved characters back on the bridge, let's put 'em in a tense situation, and let them shine! What a way to go, huh?

I've been reading general comments about BBC's problems airing both the old series (I take it Sky is running them now) and the new. Well, the Beeb doesn't hold sole rights to idiocy. If I want to watch the original series, I have to wait until Thursday morning (2 am, no less!). If I can stay awake that long I get to watch a slashed, bashed and rehashed episode. I'm also been following the many helpful comments about cut episodes. The U.S. cuts seem to correspond pretty much with the Beeb's - wonder if they purchased them from the U.S. that way? TNG is aired at a pretty decent hour, though it's geared more toward children's viewing - 7 pm on Saturday night. Fortunately for my family, we have our family outing on Friday night, so we're generally home on Saturdays. The video-recorder comes in mighty handy when we can't be home, as well. Ah, technology! However, another 'local' station airs TNG at 1.00 am Saturday mornings and another on Sunday evening at midnight. Not conducive for general viewership, I would say. I don't know, are television networks sentient - or even self-aware? Perhaps they, not Data, should be dismantled and rebuilt on a whole new scale...

To Clair Roberts: *Thank you* for standing up for William Shatner. I can only add - it's about time! For heaven's sake, give the man a break! I would love to have seen the film he had envisioned before someone destroyed it. Wonder if he could make it into a novel, using new characters? Anyway, not only does his daughter's book explain the fantastic obstacles he had to overcome to produce this film, those who worked with him (even those who don't particularly like him personally, like Walter Koenig) said he did an outstanding job. Said he maintained a good sense of humour in spite of crushing pressure and numerous setbacks. Good grief, the man's only human after all. He plays a bigger than life character, and he plays him as only William Shatner can - bigger than life. He takes everything he does in both hands and runs with it. Apparently that nettles some folks. But then again, strong personalities reap a black or white harvest - you either like them or you can't stand them. I think that's what all this boils down to. But for heaven's sake, can't we let him alone and stop picking at him like midges? Constructive criticism, yes. Ridiculing him because of a receding hairline? Unfair, and unfitting for a member of I.D.I.C.

For all of you who are still shrugging their shoulders at years 1 - 3 of TNG, please don't give up on it yet! The last half of 3 was increasingly better, and year 4 has cinched it for me. I have been, and always will be, a proponent and avid fan of the original series. However, I must say I have begun to enjoy TNG *in its own right*. Early in the series I did not approve of Picard's seemingly pacifist ways. When I say pacifist I mean the attitude of not taking up arms for any reason, even if the enemy is bludgeoning you about the head and shoulders - it is illogical. Oh, every situation was explained in the story line and everything always worked out, but I had the underlying worry that Picard wouldn't really go out on a limb for one of his crew - that he would follow regulations always. To me, that is not a sign of superior leadership. A person in command, at one time or another, will be faced with making decisions contrary to that which is accepted or expected, knowing full well there may be serious repercussions. Though I may have

missed something, I didn't really see Picard faced with that choice, or if he was, he played the pacifist role until the situation resolved itself before he was brought to that pass. In any event, I watched The Wounded last week and saw how Picard dealt with a Kirk-like starship captain who had broken under stress caused by grief and hatred. I won't go into the story line, but at first I couldn't understand why Picard didn't at least check out some of the other captain's (I can't remember his name) allegations against the Cardosian people his ship had been attacking. The other captain was adamant in his belief that the Cardosians weren't as interested in achieving a lasting peace as they had let on, yet Picard refused to board a Cardosian vessel believed by the other captain to carry items of war. But before I could become totally disgusted with Picard, he turns to the Cardosian delegate and tells him just what he thinks of the Cardosian people. Yes, he maintains the peace, remains the diplomat, but he lets the Cardosian know he hasn't been fooled a bit. You can see his dismay and grief that a fine starship captain has fallen. It's wonderful - it's real - it's Human (sorry, Mr. Spock)!

Keren Breen:

A story I came across recently. I make no claims for the truth or otherwise of the account!

During the Apollo 13 mission, which was damaged and limping home, a U.S. occultist decided to do what (s)he could to help. It seemed the best thing to do was to create a 'thought form', a sort of psychic entity which is 'programmed' to perform a task. It is quickest, and easiest, to use a thought-form that is accepted by many people (e.g. Sherlock Holmes to investigate a crime.) The occultist chose Mr. Spock to repair the damaged computers.

It is reported that one of the astronauts 'saw' Mr. Spock working on the computer. Not long after, it began to work...

After a thought-form's 'task' is done, it must be abolished or otherwise told its job is done. Nobody would dream of abolishing Mr. Spock, so 'he' was duly summoned, told his mission had been accomplished, and thanked. 'He replied, 'I suppose that is logical!'

Fascinating...

Steve Davis:

Richard Drinkwater: Yes, I agree - let's have a decent crew on the Enterprise for STVI, let's see what she can *really* do under ideal conditions - no more skeleton crews, trainees or duff deflectors/weapons!

Now, to everyone who says "TNG is nowhere near as good as Classic Trek" - Okay, I tend to agree, but please try to see it as a completely separate thing and not make comparisons between the two all the time. Sure it's different but just because the characters don't have the same "magic", the stories the same originality and the whole thing seems a lot more "Star Warsy commercialised", it doesn't mean it's *bad* does it? I don't think of it as a pale imitation of earlier Trek, I think of it as yet another variation on the original theme! May TNG be broadcast long and prosper!

Kari M John: is that actually Nichelle Nichols singing 'The Moon's a Window...' in STV? On the inlay card it says "Performed and arranged by Hiroshima". Whoever it is it's good! (Why wasn't 'Row, row, row your boat...' on the soundtrack album?)

And finally, in STV, what on earth is in those silver foil pockets that Uhura brings onto the bridge? Crisps? Puppodums? Freshly-sliced Tribble?

Barbel Schmidt:

I like all the Q-episodes very much. John de Lancie is a great actor and, as I found out when I bought the first DC annual, also an excellent author. Concerning Tasha, I am surprised at Sheila Clark's and Ann Peter's criticism. I

think that we shouldn't condemn 'female' reactions as weakness. Being able to show emotions is a strength many males lack. Tasha knew how to handle her emotions, she didn't suppress them as a typical 'male' security officer would, and I like that. In spite of growing up having to fight for her life every day, Tasha didn't become a careless fighting machine. She remained Human and I am glad about that. But in spite of the fact that I like Tasha I hope she will not return. I don't see a good reason why she should come back from the dead (Please not a Q-resurrection story!) and I also like Worf very much as Security Chief.

Marion Pritchard:

I do realize that Frontiers was an eternity ago, but I would still like to say a big hello to all the people I met there and a special hello to Helen White who gave me a mention in her article. It was great to meet all the IDIC committee members and all the other Star Trek people, and now I do know that I am definitely not alone. (Having met some really nice people from Germany at Worldcon I now also realize that once I had left that country Star Trek became and still is becoming very popular).

Let me express here one thing that I've wanted to say for quite a while: full marks to my compatriot Karin Embacher!! I wholeheartedly agree with her when she finds that very often German dubbing of ST changes the meaning of things sometimes to an extent that they become illogical and out of context, and there is no justification whatsoever for that. In this respect the BBC are just as guilty! I was sad to see that Sky used those cut-up episodes as well!

For those who are not quite sure who I am: my husband Steve and I were to be seen in the dealers' room most hours of the day making badges, including the 'North Wing Survivor' one, we still wear it with pride and actually manage to laugh about it, but if any of you out there would like one made up, my address is in the back with Armadacon 3.

The very impressive cake that won the prize in the arts competition (crew in the rec room) was made by Lorraine Pritchard, my sister-in-law. Lorraine makes the most fantastic cakes, badges, dragons, jewellery - and to order as well for any occasion you care to mention. I think a cake like the one at Frontiers took her the best part of two weeks, especially the small wiggly bits. If you would like her address, let me know (again via Armadacon). She is very reliable with orders and often found at cons, so go look her up in the dealers' room, she'd really like that!!

Let me also here express my sadness and disappointment that Gene was not interviewed here in the UK, especially since I have never seen or heard an interview with him, believe it or not; but this just confirms the BBC's attitude to SF, be it the axing of Blake's Seven or the playing about with Dr Who. What a pity, maybe they work on the premise: if it's good, get rid of it, people might even like (shock!) our programme.

To Helen White: thanks for the quiz, can we have some more? And do you still accept orders for uniforms?

To Kathleen Glancy: I do agree with you that they overdid it a bit with the flag in Omega Glory, but then not being Americans we would, and a lot of Americans are genuinely proud of their flag and what it represents for them. This episode was made during the Cold War period, and should probably be seen in this historical context, when the main objective was to combat communism on all fronts. I don't think that the episode would be made like this today. I do not, however, agree with you when you say Spock should not have stood up when the flag was brought in. I think his standing up in respect for the beliefs of other people is exactly what IDIC stands for, namely tolerance and acceptance of the fact that no political or religious ideas have the right to dominate others.

Let's just agree on the fact that this particular episode was by far not the best effort they made!!

Last but not least to Teresa Abbott: thank you very much for the very fair review of Armadacon II. We had a committee meeting after the con to discuss what went well and what didn't, and all the problems you mentioned, e.g. bags etc were absolutely felt by us on the two days. Armadacon II had just over 150 members (Armadacon I about 70) and we felt that people seemed to have a good time in spite of all the actors and our main book dealer letting us down at the last minute. The Arts Centre was a vast improvement on our very first venue (unlicensed and we had to be out by 6!), but this year we are finally in a hotel!! So, some of last year's problems are now last year's problems. We hope to see you again this year, and maybe you can stay a little longer and enjoy more of what's on offer.

By the way, Armadacon II raised £621 for Guide Dogs for the Blind, maybe we can give them a complete dog with Armadacon III. Wish us luck!

Finally a general cry of help: did anyone record the second episode of the BBC programme Spender with Jimmy Nail? Due to overlong news on the day and being out that evening I missed the last 20 minutes. If so, can you help me?

Live long & prosper and let Star Trek VI be the best one ever and I hope to meet a lot of you sometime in the future.

Maggie Edwards:

I have read that Spock gets married in ST VI. I would like to offer myself for the part of Mrs. S. I don't mind how many 'takes' it takes (the more the better!). Perhaps it would be logical to have Dr. McCoy standing by to assist Mr. Nimoy afterwards - in case it all gets a bit out of hand.

I noticed the following in the Sun on Wednesday Feb 13: "Star bargain - a STAR TREK phaser gun, used in the hit 1960s cult TV show, is expected to fetch £6000 at auction in London."

Jenny Turner:

Electricity advert on TV: When I read about the Star Trek advert in the Sun I honestly thought it was a wind up! I got the impression, I don't know why, that it was made in this country, but no - it was made in the States. Why not here? With some of our shows depicted it must have cost the Electricity Board a fortune. I thought the advert was funny, especially the brolly bit and Scotty saying he was 'power mad' (Kirk, that is). No wonder the Electricity prices are rocketing, with advertising like this. I love Star Trek, but I would prefer lower bills! I don't know if anyone else feels the same? It would be interesting to know. Even doing the advert here would have been expensive, but not as expensive as in the States, I'll bet.

Nicole Comtet:

Newsletters 13 and 14 have once more raised your reputation. In N/L 13 I particularly enjoyed the Star Trek glossary, so very funny, by Chris Blenkhorn (I hope there is more to come) and the very informative article on Vulcanology by Linda Wood, who has put there a lot of research and work. Besides the article she mentions in Best of Trek there is also a small glossary, for what it is worth, at the end of Marshak and Culbreath's book The Prometheus Design. All these informations and glossaries are very helpful when one writes stories about Spock and Vulcan. So thank you, Linda, for this very thorough article on Vulcan language.

As was to be expected, the What is an Android? article by Jacqueline Comben has raised some controversy among the readers. I must say that I fully agree with her view on machines, androids, etc. They may be beneficial and perfect, etc, etc... but they are just pieces of hardware and circuitry assembled by man who himself is a creation, of course, but a creation of flesh and blood, a creation with a soul (far from perfect, unfortunately). To me, there cannot be any comparison between a machine, perfect imitation of man though it may be, such as androids, and the creatures of God. To me, Humans, Vulcans, Romulans, etc - even a bird, a tree or a flower, are my notion of life. Androids like Rayna Kopek or Data

are not. But of course everyone is entitled to his or her opinion!

Incidentally, the zines of Jacqueline Comben are among my favourites and I enjoyed particularly her last two - Green Fire and Afterglow. In the latter, the way she depicts the relationship between Spock and his former students reminds me of one of her short stories, called also Green Fire, which appeared in a zine some time ago, and which was very good, as are all her works - so I fully concur with her views about Star Trek and TNG.

I realise by reading your articles on BBC cuts and several letters on the same subject that over here in France we have had the chance to see the Star Trek series in its full version, although dubbed in French, of course. When I compare my French copies with the CIC videos, there is no difference. I am afraid that some of the BBC episodes must have been rather meaningless with all these cuts. It seems a shame that some scenes were edited, for whatever reason, like the scene between Spock and the Romulan Commander. How could you have missed that!

As usual, I found your zine and book reviews most informative and useful. However, I think you (Sheila) are too generous in giving 8 out of 10 to Enemy Unseen which you reviewed in N/L13. I was just reading it when I received the N/L and on the whole I would only give it 4 out of 10, no more. I was rather disappointed with it. There is not much of a suspense, and why get rid of Spock from the start if it is to give his traits, abilities, even some of his mannerisms to the Deltans - I would rather have the original than mere duplicates, less appealing, and I think the author missed a chance to present the Deltans in an original light instead of vague imitations of Vulcan. The only thing they did not do was the neck pinch! From the character of Ilia (ST:TMP) who is not emotionless except when she is the probe, the author could have created some original and fascinating Deltans.

On the subject of books, I have just finished How Much for Just the Planet? by John M. Ford. Once I got started and in the right mood, for it is a rather hare-brained comedy, I really enjoyed it and I had a good laugh at some of the scenes.

In reply to Edward Woo's review in N/L 13 of Web of the Romulans, yes, I have read it and I consider it is one of the classics of Pocket Books and one of my favourites. Has he ever listened to the audio adaptation by Leonard Nimoy and George Takei? One of the many Simon and Schuster audio-novels by Nimoy, Takei and also James Doohan. I think they are very well done and bring the novel to life.

As for the news about Star Trek VI, all I can say is: wait and see - but if Spock is to get married, at least let it be to the Romulan Commander, the only woman who can be a match for the Vulcan! But you never know with Paramount.

Ingrid Smith:

I would just like to add my penny's worth to a couple of points brought up in the postbag. First of all, I have now seen all the first season of TNG, either aired on BBC 2 or on video. All I can say is, I quite enjoyed watching it - once! When I try to sit through a second showing of an episode I just get bored, perhaps I just don't 'feel' anything for the characters! With the original series I can watch episodes over and over again, even tho' I know some of the scenes by heart!! I shall go on watching TNG but I can't see myself becoming a real fan, ie collect or read books/zines on the series. I just can't get 'involved' enough for that!.

To Helen White re: Spock's Brain - I AGREE with you it's hilarious! When I first saw the episode back in the 70s, I was thoroughly embarrassed - having just admitted to someone that I watched and actually recommended STAR TREK - then of course the BBC went and showed THAT episode. I could have died!! However, having recently watched it on video several times, I now think it's great - the best scene being right at the end when (just before the final credits) McCoy hands the coffer-doofer thingamajig (that controls Spock) to Kirk to try to shut him up! It's worth watching the whole episode just for that bit!! So Helen, you're not the only

loony around...

Finally, I know this is old hat now, but I loved Star Trek V. I think William Shatner did a brilliant job - I hope Star Trek VI is at least half as good!

Martin Stahl:

The last N/L arrived exactly on the day I expected it and I did night-shifts as I couldn't wait for the next day to continue it. The weekend came soon and with it my missing sleep!

I have seen TNG's fourth season until Final Mission and I'm very impressed by the episodes, especially Remember Me. First, I was looking forward to seeing the Traveller again, but now I'm sure this episode would be a favourite of mine even without him.

Regarding Hide and Q - I don't agree with you (Sheila) and Ann Peters. I can understand Tasha crying, very well. She knows that her life depends totally on the behaviour of the others and on Q's mercy. Her life is threatened and she can do absolutely nothing to protect herself. This is a very desperate situation, especially for the Security Chief, without a chance for her to do anything, therefore Tasha's tears seem to me to be reasonable.

What does the rating at BBC's screening dates of TNG episodes mean? Does, for example, reading 4 mean that this is the fourth most watched episode of this day or week? [*Ed - fourth highest viewing figures for that channel for the week.*] The programme ratings in Germany are not very good, on average 10%/3.5 million viewers. TNG is dubbed rather well, but in Haven the sound was lost for three minutes, in Hide and Q the picture was disturbed at the end of the episode. Hide and Q was shifted to a later date because of Gorbachev's visit to Germany, Coming of Age because of the Davis Cup. ZDF intended to make up leeway this episode after the screening of Conspiracy but then they decided (possibly because of fan protest - I certainly wrote them a letter) to screen it between Symbiosis and Skin of Evil. Each episode is interrupted by 10 - 15 minutes of commercials (in one piece) and when TNG premiered in Germany there was only very little advertising by TV magazines. But I know many people (not Trekkers) who like the show.

Unfortunately Janet's hopes about the Gulf conflict haven't been fulfilled. I was ashamed that German companies supplied Iraq with weapons, and I was shocked when I heard about the oil pollution in the Gulf. I think that A Taste of Armageddon, A Private Little war and The Arsenal of Freedom have become very real. How little humanity has changed in 25 years!

I think I can give some answers to P K Davies' questions about Klingons (N/L 14):

1) The Klingon primary star is Kaus Australis and it's 150 light years from Earth.

2) None, I think. [*How many years are the Klingons technologically behind Sol.*]

4) They have similar city constructions (Sins of the Father) and use a similar transporter (Day of the Dove, ST III, IV, V)

David Cameron:

In answer to P K Davies' questions (all information from FASA's The Klingons).

1) Since the Klingon primary star is about 82 light years from the Orion Nebula and the Orion Nebula is about 1300 light years from Sol, then the star must be about 1382 light years from Sol.

2) I can't answer this question properly because the time at which Klingon development is to be compared to Sol's wasn't mentioned. However, at the present

time (1991) the Klingons are about 46 years AHEAD of us (if they existed, of course!) and in Star Trek's time they are, at a guess, about the same stage in development (but I'm not all that sure).

3) At reference Stardate 1/5105.02 the USS Sentry confronted the Klingon ship Devisor near Gamma Demetrius.

4) I don't know about this one, at a guess I'd say yes.

5) The original Klingon sidearm fired a tightly focused beam of sound which disrupted cell structure but wasn't capable of disintegration. The later sidearms used "a molecular debonding effect"(!) which could cause cell disruption, vibration or heating effects. This model was capable of disintegration and is presumably the one seen in the movies.

Linda Wood:

To Kathleen Glancy: you really should get your facts straight before you say 'yah, boo and sucks' to me, Kathleen. Firstly, Glasgow has two major amateur G & S performing clubs - The Orpheus Club, the oldest G & S club in Scotland which celebrates its centenary in 1992, and The Savoy Club. There are also numerous smaller groups in and around Glasgow (like the East Kilbride G & S Society and the Kilmacoll G & S Society) who put on excellent shows every year. Secondly, and as your producer Alan Borthwick will be able to tell you, The Orpheus Club have already performed *The Grand Duke* twice during the 1980s, with adaptations overseen by John Wolfson, who came all the way from America to see the shows! Thirdly and finally, the Glasgow Branch of the Gilbert and Sullivan Society, of which I am Founding Chairman, is affiliated to the parent Gilbert and Sullivan Society and is a non-performing Branch. The Edinburgh G & S Society is *not* affiliated and should not in any way display itself as such. And yes, a few of us are coming through for the Saturday matinee, so if you would like to speak to Alan Borthwick, who I will be seeing after the show, perhaps we can meet. *[Ed: Down, Linda! I think we'll call it a draw and let you carry on this discussion between yourselves. Have fun!]*

Michelle Drayton:

To Lloyd Lewis and Claire Roberts (re Nightmare at 20000 Feet). Bill Shatner stars in the Twilight Zone episode Nightmare at 20000 Feet (not to be confused with the tele-movie horror at 30000 - and the less said about that the better). Shatner portrays a man overcoming his fear of flying by taking a trip with his wife. All goes well until he sees something outside the plane. The original story was written by Richard Mathieson who is one of my own personal favourite SF writers. The adaptation to the small screen was 'loyal' in many ways to the short story although the guy in the monkey suit was far from convincing. Shatner's performance however certainly enhanced the somewhat lame shock value, but then, when first released, I am sure it was quite adventurous and to a few, quite frightening.

The story was refilmed for The Twilight Zone - Movie, with John Lithgow taking Shatner's role with a much more convincing beastie on the wing. There was more subtle humour in the movie version and the twist-in-the-tale had more impact at the end of the film. If Lloyd wishes to see the original, I may be able to help out.

I seem to recall another Twilight Zone that Bill Shatner was in but I'm not sure which one. *[Ed: It was Cold Hands, Warm Heart.]*

Ray Dowsett:

In various ST clubs over the years, one of the features I have enjoyed the most has been the "letters pages", and of all the clubs I have belonged to I think that IDIC has the most interesting letters. Therefore, as I have been 'silent' for far too long and as such silence is "against the nature of the beast", I would like to add my few penneth... which means Sheila (Clark) and I are about to disagree again!! Sorry, Sheila, I forgot, we did agree once! (For the benefit of those who don't know, this 'disagreement' is a long standing joke between Sheila and me.)

Throughout my years in fandom, I have discovered just TWO Trekkers who have a

pretty near identical view of Trek to myself, one of whom is Jacqueline Y. Comben. Therefore it is no great surprise to find that I agree almost entirely with the lady over her comments in N/L 13 about Data, and thus almost entirely *disagree* with Steve Lake, Lloyd Lewis and others in N/L 14.

To my mind, Data is a machine whether people *like* the idea or not. It (he) is *not* alive, in the sense it is not the offspring of flesh and blood parentage. "Strange new life..." ...sure... but what is *life*? It is not an artificially created object, no matter how sophisticated... it can be programmed to almost exactly simulate the actions and thought processes of a living creature... but that ability does not *make* it "alive" in the living creature sense. It can be given "fully functional male characteristics"... but I do not see that it will ever *feel* what a man feels under such circumstances, let alone know the emotional aspects... it can only operate by what it is programmed to do. Sorry, folks, to me, Data is a sophisticated machine... nothing more.

Kathleen Glancy (N/L 14): I loved your comment about McCoy's genes twitching in the flag scene from The Omega Glory... obviously I agree with you! Incidentally no prizes for guessing who, during a showing of The Savage Curtain at a con, was heard to mutter when Kirk spoke about Abraham Lincoln being one of history's "good guys" (or words to that effect) "Depends upon your allegiance... one and a half million Americans would have disagreed..." chunter, mutter!!

Lesley Hatch (N/L 14 - weak female roles): Agreed about Cally in Blake's 7, and Jenna to a degree, but nowhere in ST is there a female character the equal of Servalan. *She* was very definitely a "strong female character"... and... we... drool!!

Jenny Turner (N/L 13) and Sandy Catchick (N/L 14): "Make it so"... This is a standard Naval order, used certainly in the RN and probably in the USN too. It is the executive order from a senior officer to a junior, to carry out a pre-ordered function. For example, at the time of day when the Ensign is hoisted in harbour (Colours Ceremony), at the appointed time, the person responsible will report to the Officer in charge, "Colours, sir". The officer will reply, "Make it so", this being the order to commence the ceremony.

Janet Quarton (N/L 14): Obviously we agree over ships! My favourite scene in Star Trek is from ST:TMP when the shuttle approaches Enterprise... didn't she (the ship) look beautiful? Totally agree with you, certainly you can get fond of, 'fall in love with' (almost) a ship, and when it is 'lost' be it like the poor Enterprise or just scrapped through obsolete old age... you have a definite sense of loss that is over and above a mere inanimate object.

Incidentally, is it you in N/L 14 who answered Kari M John's query reference DeForest Kelley's name? As an addition to that, I doubt many people know that whilst there may have been more, the only two DeForests I have discovered in my books on the American Civil War both fought for the *north*! John DeForest was a Captain in the US Cavalry under General Phil Sheridan, and John William DeForest was a Captain in 12th Connecticut Infantry. Strangely enough I have never come across a 'McCoy' on *either* side! More useless information for you!

[Ed - That's probably why De Kelley's first name is 'Jackson']

Cath Russell:

Being a new member I wasn't quite sure what to expect of IDIC. I've seen one other fan club's newsletter and quite honestly was not very impressed. IDIC has really lived up to my expectations though, the latest two editions and several back issues delighted me and gave hours of pleasure.

The postbag is one of the most interesting features to my mind. It's great to find that others hold the same opinions as you, and stimulating when they don't. Janet's advice to write the letter but not post it for a day or two is very good advice! I wrote a stinking letter to the Radio Times about whinging Dr. Who fans

and the BBC's neglect of TNG... back in the spring of 1990. Then I spent several agonising weeks praying they wouldn't print it! So take note!

I agree wholeheartedly with Clair Roberts' view about 'William Shatner bashing'. I'm not his greatest fan, but classic Trek was an important part of my teenage years and I hate to see this going on. He's given pleasure to millions over the years and that's no small achievement, more than most of us will ever manage!

I feel the same about 'TNG bashing'. Some people seem to be positively vicious in their criticism. Could this be jealousy of its success, I wonder? Comparing 'classic' to TNG is a pretty useless exercise. They're so different. I personally prefer TNG but will always have a fondness for classic Trek. One of the things it had that TNG doesn't is 'daftness of plot'. Kirk and Spock among Nazis, Romans, Gangsters, Indians... you name it and they did it. Wonderful stuff. TNG has never gone in for unbelievable plots, and I think that's a bit of a shame. We all need some silliness in our lives! Luckily it more than makes up for it in other ways.

Oriel Cooper's account of her weekend with Patrick Stewart (I could have put that better, couldn't I?) had me green with envy, an absolutely fabulous trip... you lucky thing, you!

There was great disappointment in this household at the non-appearance of Gene Roddenberry on Wogan as well (apart from hubby who groaned 'Not more Star Trek' and hid in the loo...) My daughters and I thought we were in for a real treat! So it was all down to Sue Lawley? Right... Well, that's *her* crossed off my Christmas card list...

Have you seen the new TV Zone (No. 15)? I was stunned, flabberghasted... one might even say 'agog' to read the report that there's a 'distinct possibility' that the Beeb might opt to run straight through into the second series without a break. I cannot believe that Auntie would be so kind to Trek fans! I'll believe it when I see it, but if it's true I'll never say one unkind word about the BBC again. Well, not for a couple of weeks, anyway.

Helen White's comment on the jumpsuits and their tendency to squeeze male dangly bits had me giggling. Perhaps this would explain why Patrick Stewart does that little leap out of his chair on several occasions?

Helen's point about Data and command is also interesting. I have trouble with this. Taking into account how much of command involved diplomacy (we've all observed Picard taking a very deep breath and managing not to put his foot in it on numerous occasions) and considering how many 'gaffs' Data's been responsible for, what sort of Captain would he make, for goodness' sake? I feel the same about Worf. They're both terrific characters but I can't see either in command of a starship. I agree, though, that an interesting script would come of Data taking command.

My favourite episodes (Janet) are Friday's Child, Amok Time, Journey to Babel, The Trouble with Tribbles from classic Trek. From TNG, Haven, The Battle, We'll Always Have Paris from the first season. From subsequent episodes (those that I've seen) A Matter of Honor, The Measure of a Man, Deja Q, The Offspring (brilliant) Allegiance and Sarek (also brilliant). But there are some that I haven't seen that I'm sure would be on the list.

To Steve Lake - regarding your comments about classic Trek - hear, hear - I couldn't have put it better.

Ann Peters' comments about videos at conventions struck me as very sensible. I've never been fortunate enough to attend one (but hope to put that right in the near future) but if I did videos of the latest TNG episodes would be a priority. I go all peculiar when I think about the merchandise rooms too; what have I been

missing? Better start saving now!

I must say I agree, but only to a certain extent, with Lorraine Goodison (love your zine stories, creep, creep) comments on TNG books (N/L 13). Some have become indistinguishable, particularly those carping on about environmental issues! Some, too, are that heavy going that I've come to the conclusion that I'm a bit thick and can't take it all in. Others, though, stick in the mind - the wonderful Strike Zone, The Children of Hamelin and Ghost Ship. I didn't even mind Masks - at least it didn't demand much of my poor addled brain. What I *am* getting tired of is Riker and his old friends. What next - his mother's cousin twice removed? The next book, Contamination, does sound more hopeful, though; murder and mayhem on the Enterprise and Worf and Troi investigating. I live in Hope... (I don't, actually, but it's a lovely village...)

Tony Amis:

Thank you for the IDIC newsletters so far which have proved very interesting reading, both informative and friendly.

I have a few thoughts and a few questions to raise.

Firstly I would state that I am equally a fan of classic Trek and TNG; both have qualities that make them strong dramatic science fiction series that within the Star Trek universe find us exploring all manner of ideas, as the writers are not bound by too many constraints, apart from the crew behaving and acting in character.

The films I like in the order 2, 4, 5, 3, TMP. My favourite classic Trek episodes are Galileo Seven, Space Seed and Mirror Mirror. My favourite TNG so far are Where No-one Has Gone Before and Datalore.

It really would be a thrill to see Leonard Nimoy do the Return to Forever TNG script for season 3 as Spock is probably the easiest of classic Trek characters to place within a TNG episode. I would have thought Wesley at Starfleet Academy would allow for Sulu, Chekov, Uhura and Scotty to be present in a couple of TNG episodes and cheaper for Paramount as well.

I hope Star Trek 6 gives us an upbeat finale to the classic crew's voyages together. It really needs only hint at what separate ways they go; maybe an epilogue at the end of the film based a year after splitting up at a New Year's Eve party with Kirk and Co. al present.

It would be nice if the BBC does continue with the second season of TNG after the first, as it has been a success even though it's shown at a ridiculous time, and thinking about the plots to come it would be nice to catch up with them a bit quicker than remaining three years behind for ever.

By the way, if anyone fancies lending me a video of Home Soil, I would appreciate it as I missed it. I would return it, return of post, watching it straight away.

One other thing puzzling me is, what does K/S actually mean in reference to fan fiction? Does it imply a gay relationship between Kirk and Spock? [Ed - yes.] I don't think this has any premise in the series. Though the characters had feelings for one another, it was one of comradeship, a bond built on missions that means they can rely on one another in extreme situations. It's not a direction I would have thought the characters would ever develop. Ah, well, just a thought.

Thanks for listening. Maybe I'll be able to make my first Trek convention and see some future episodes of TNG and some of those excellent speeches that you're reviewing in the newsletter.

Jacqueline Comben:

With eager anticipation I am looking forward to October 1991 when I 'early

retire'. No, I shall *not* be bored! I do aim to visit the USA for a long holiday and I shall be doing some Consultancy work for two or three years... (that's as a Radiation Protection Adviser, in case anyone wants to employ me - special rates to IDIC members!) However, the main point is that I shall have time to *WRITE!!!* I have not dared to give up work and try to get my fiction published professionally, being too much of a coward to depend on royalties, but with a pension, some interest on savings, and some Consultancy fees I shall have enough to fall back on even if I never sell a line! I know that, so far from being underemployed, I shall have trouble fitting all I want to do into the available hours, as my village will think, "Jackie isn't working, so she can do that," about all sorts of "thats" and a few other things as well!!

However, if someone's only interest is their work, then retirement is a terrible bore and such people often die within a few months of leaving their profession. If I die, it will not be of boredom, but of my smoking habit and I do not want to live to be very old anyway, having seen what existence in an Old Folks' Home is like.

With respect to the comparison between Original Trek and TNG, a thought keeps occurring to me;

I was 'hooked' by the first bit-of-an-episode of Trek I ever saw, and that was without knowing what it was or, really, what the hell was going on, as I came in near the end of the episode. Everyone I know has said of TNG that they would carry on watching in the hope of improvement. I felt like that myself and was pleased when it did get better. However, rewatching 1st season 'better' episodes after seeing 3rd season, I realise I do get bored... 1st season never became *that* good. We did not have to 'give time' to Original Trek... we were hooked at first sight! We mourned the decay in quality in the 3rd season, but loved it enough, by then, to feel that poor Trek was better than no Trek. I do feel that the contrast shows that TNG is not intrinsically as good as the Original.. and I think, "If only Original had been supported as TNG has been... so that it continued to improve in 3rd season... Just think what could have been achieved!" I am very, very sad to imagine what we missed.

Was any TNG fan reading this hooked instantly as my generation was by the Original? Do please comment, folks.

Re Klingon home planet - are the Starfleet maps a valid source of info? I mean, are they 'official'? If they are, I'd say look towards Beteigeuse and the Klingon home planet is roughly that way but 90 parsecs from Earth. To give accurate location I'd have to give co-ordinates! And I do not believe Klingons are 'behind' Federation technology - just different!

Kari M John:

To Sandy Catchick - I am very pleased that a zine writer has asked me if my idea about the Traveller meeting Kirk was used for a story. I hadn't actually thought about using this theme but I would like to write some fiction including the Traveller (when I've seen more of him!) I think he's a most interesting character and would like to know more about him. At the moment I'm only thinking up ideas for Trek fiction and so far I haven't written much as I'm new to Trek fandom, despite being a life-long fan. I agree that it is reasonable to assume that the Traveller could 'turn up' on the Enterprise commanded by Kirk, as it seems the Traveller can travel in time.

I greatly appreciate your asking me if you can use my 'idea' (actually it was only a thought...) - maybe we could write a story between us, eg exchanging ideas, artwork, storylines etc (using the post of course) - what do you think about this? I have yet to submit Trek fiction for publication and would welcome your help and advice. Please let me know what you think - my address is the personal column in N/L 14. I look forward to hearing from you.

Lastly, a special thank you to all the people who have answered my ad about

Space 1999, especially Jan Hawkins; I appreciate it very much.

Lesley Hatch - I meant that Kirk would have respected the Traveller for his abilities and honourable nature; I was not talking about the Enterprise. Anyway, it wasn't the Traveller who was to blame for the trouble, it was the engineer!

Best wishes to all IDIC members and Dik dor eh Musma.

Lesley Hatch:

Kathleen Glancy - Yes, O.K., the bit in The Omega Glory with the US flag was absurd, and no, Spock isn't an American; granted it may seem absurd to Spock, but nevertheless it would not be out of place for him to revere it. He would pay respects to anything that is important to any civilisation, regardless of how absurd he might feel it to be.

Lloyd Lewis - I like your idea of the Traveller being female in classic Trek. However, no female would have been allowed to do everything that the Traveller did in TNG.

Helen White - I liked Leonard Nimoy in Operation Annihilate too. I'd forgotten that one.

Janet Quarton - my favourite original Trek episodes are Amok Time, Journey to Babel and The Enterprise Incident. TNG - Loud as a Whisper, The Offspring, Deja Q, The Bonding, Tin Man, Hollow Pursuits and Sarek.

Elena Bond:

When the Bough Breaks was for me the low point of the first season of ST:TNG. I found Hannah Louise Shearer's story so dreadful it did not even look like Star Trek. I feel I have to say something about it and the sentiments which lie behind it. I'm not really all that surprised Paramount chose to film such a story; it's part of the Hollywood obsession with fertility and the myth that everyone is so anxious to have children and that this is such a good thing. I seriously feel a story like Mark of Gideon, the classic Trek episode dealing with over-population and the consequences of denying people the choice and means not to have children (with which When the Bough Breaks is bound to be contrasted) would never have been made today. Yet the issues addressed (and very well dealt with) in Mark of Gideon are if anything more relevant today, with the growing environmental problems we face as a result of ignoring overpopulation in favour of the stance portrayed in When the Bough Breaks, than when the classic Trek episode was made all those years ago.

The only good thing about this ST:TNG story was the look of boredom on both Captain Picard's and Riker's faces in having to deal with such a situation. At least Picard and Riker are portrayed as not being sentimental about kids, which is quite something in the current climate of opinion.

On a high note, did you see the beautiful silk clothes ravishing Riker wore in Angel One? That outfit was quite something! I love a man in brightly coloured silk. Turquoise and lilac complemented his lovely blue-green eyes perfectly. Also we got to see a whole lot more of him than we usually do as the tunic was quite revealing. Jonathan Frakes definitely ought to be allowed more costume changes. We were told in the story that on one planet he visited Riker wore only feathers... oh to have seen him in nothing but feathers! Angel One, and those Riker scenes in particular, will stand out in my mind for a long time to come as one of my favourite ST:TNG episodes. I also thought this storyline was one of the best featured in the first season episodes.

Anyone else think the Bynars, featured in the following week's episodes, were so cute?

Sheila Clark:

Present-day technology may have robotic machines that can be programmed to do a

great deal, but androids - humanoid robots capable of assessing and acting 'freely' from a set of pre-programmed instructions - are beyond anything scientists can presently come up with, so the question of whether or not we believe that in three hundred years' time an android will be sentient or self-aware is pretty academic! If we enjoy science fiction, surely it isn't too much to expect us to suspend disbelief and accept that an android (namely Data) can react as an individual.

Incidentally, one of my favourite characters in science fiction is Isaac Asimov's robot detective R Daneel Olivaw. If Asimov - many of whose stories revolve around robots (or androids) of varying degrees of complexity - believes that a robot of Daneel's capabilities is possible, surely we can accept Data as being a viable proposition?

Ram Baddeley:

First, a general point on TNG: I tried to keep a completely open mind and did not read anything before the BBC started transmission and, despite the various flaws, I like it. However, the way Wesley constantly solves problems and repairs complex equipment that none of the experienced officers can deal with, seriously undermines their competence and hence their believability as characters. Similarly, it's a shame that strong women characters are thin on the ground and get thinner as time goes by, from reports.

Another failure so far has been that there are good ideas, good set pieces, good acting - but inconsistencies in the plot now and then. For example, in The Big Goodbye, Wesley says that if the program aborts, the people inside will disappear; not the *real* people, surely? They would just be standing in a big empty room. Similarly, though I can accept solid objects, even solid fake people, on the holodeck, since these are apparently created by an energy-into-matter process, how can lipstick remain on Picard's face *outside* the room? It should have reverted to energy again like the two thugs. Again, the police lieutenant asks whether his life will continue after Picard leaves but the room goes black, yet earlier, when Picard first leaves, the scene carries on with the criminal's henchman opening the door. They are only little things, but they still jar. It is in episodes like Datalore and The Naked Now that the real clangers have been dropped, however, and I will come to that.

Now specifically to IDIC N/L 13: the "Is Data viable?" debate was interesting. I was rather puzzled when I saw Datalore as I had not then seen The Naked Now. I have just bought a copy and the references in it to Data's chemical fluids has now made his viability more acceptable to me. When I saw Datalore, I enjoyed the episode but, from references people had made to intoxication and injections, I had envisaged him being rather like the androids in Alien/Aliens, which are very obviously biochemical and have a system of internal circulation, filled with a blood analogue; presumably for conveying energy to the android equivalent of cells, and carrying away waste products. Such androids possibly could develop emotions, since research into Human and animal brains shows that emotions are felt as a result of highly complex activity in the brain, involving various chemical receptors and emitters.

Anyway, he seemed far more mechanical/electronic in nature than I expected, with all those separate parts that looked like they just plugged together. Now I can accept the possibility that he has an equivalent of the chemicals in us which are intimately involved in the generation of emotions but I'm trying to figure out how the circulation he mentioned fits into such a construction method! (And why nothing leaked when his brain was exposed; that was what it was flashing away when he received the head injury, wasn't it?) I just wish they had kept it a bit more mysterious in Datalore or showed a few more obvious tubes!

Another possible avenue for development of "synthetic Humans" might be via a future development of "living computers" consisting of organic matrices using DNA as an information storage medium. Such computers, made small enough, could be implanted in android bodies which, not especially "biological" in nature, would maintain the living brain.

Regarding Jacqueline Comben's letter, I would not view a sentient machine as superior to us, but rather "equal but different". As Data points out, he is superior in some respects to Humans. (eg his strength, memory capacity) but would gladly give it all up to be Human!

Frankly, I can't really see the point, in Jacqueline's article, of arguing the non-viability of androids using Star Trek or other episodes of ST:TNG as evidence. This is selective reasoning: ST:TNG shows us Data in a way that, certainly from *The Naked Now*, makes it clear that he is meant to be capable of experiencing emotions and, from all the episodes, that he is an autonomous sentient being. Within the piece of fiction that the series is, this is presented as a *FACT*. Therefore, the "fact" that various other androids popped their clogs when trying to emulate him is neither here nor there: they did not have the miraculous "positronic brain" that he has.

Incidentally, regarding the reference to "Asimov's dream of the positronic brain" in *Datalore*, the positron is the anti-particle of the electron, but, as Peter Nichol's *Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* points out, the positron is too unstable to be taken seriously as suitable material for construction and labels it as "sheer glorious double-talk typical of SF of the period". I was surprised, in view of the Asimov reference, that there was no mention of his famous Three Laws which were a prominent feature of his stories about positronic robots: 1. A robot may not injure a human being or through inaction allow a human being to come to harm; 2. A robot must obey the orders given it by human beings except where such orders would conflict with the First Law; 3. A robot must protect its own existence as long as such protection does not conflict with the First or Second Law. Obviously, these laws do not apply to androids!

Talking specifically of the *Datalore* episode itself, although it had some good action sequences and better direction than some of the episodes which have been a bit static, there were huge holes in the plot which grated. I was glad to hear Data had spent years working his way up, as I'd got the impression from newsletter discussions that he had just been put on the ship and given an honorary grade. However, the on/off switch business was ridiculous. I cannot believe the Federation found an android on a planet where the entire colony had disappeared and did not exhaustively study him before letting him loose in the Academy and Starfleet, let alone promoting him to Lieutenant Commander. If they could not come up with an alternative plot device, why couldn't it have been something so inconspicuous that it passed as a cosmetic feature, or else something internal which could be operated by transmitting a particular frequency which the initial team had not tried. After all, he apparently "woke up" spontaneously when he was found: how did that happen?

Oh, about "isolinear" chips in *The Naked Now* review. I consulted my Oxford English Dictionary (2 huge volumes) and they seem to have invented it from "iso" and "linear". Basically, it means something consisting of equal lines! The episode itself amazed me. When people said Data was seduced by Yar I certainly did not think it was because he was under the influence: like Ann Peters, I find the idea of a water-borne contagion affecting him to be far fetched in the extreme. However, I fell about laughing at the way he trooped into the bedroom with a big smile on his face and the way he reappeared on the bridge later. I thought Crusher was great in this, too, even though I am not normally mad about her. The only one in the command crew (and incidentally, wouldn't Worf have been much more likely to contract it than Data?) who came out of the situation with any credit was Riker. Presumably he must be a very strong willed individual to have kept himself under control all that time when everyone else was succumbing within minutes! After all, even Kirk had a lapse in the original episode.

Changing the subject to *Blake's Seven*, the women had the same problem, as Lesley Arrowsmith says, and Sally Knyvette left while Jan Chappell had to be offered more interesting stories to induce her to stay on for another season. Basically, they both complained of having to mind the teleport all the time while the men went down to the planets and had all the adventures. None of the female

characters were developed particularly well, Soolin's character suffering from this tendency in particular. And with regard to the BBC videos: most have been terribly cut, the first one being three or four episodes cut down into an hour or so. However, the BBC have now said they will release all the episodes uncut so I would advise people not to buy them until these new versions are available.

On the subject of videos, there isn't anywhere around here to rent ST:TNG. Does anyone know if the later seasons are available to buy, as some of the descriptions in the newsletter sound really interesting and I don't think I can wait four years to see them!

[Ed: Pam's letter above missed the last newsletter, below is her response to n/l 14.]

Re Gloria Fry's comment on TNG's low ratings and the implication that this proves it is not popular. Frankly, the original series was cancelled due to low ratings, which in turn were largely due to putting the programme on at an unsociable hour - does that sound familiar? Additionally, the BBC's rating system is based on about 4000 viewers and only records those programmes watched live, not those they video. Since most of those people are probably travelling home during TNG and, if interested, video it, this would not show up in the ratings. In any case, rating figures in general have plummeted since the early 1980s. To use those of another genre show, Dr. Who, for comparison. In the halcyon days of Philip Hinchcliffe's producership (late 1970s) DW achieved up to 18 MILLION viewers! The last series got an average of 4 to 5 million; admittedly, partly due to a slump in standards over the preceding ten years but also partly reflecting the dramatic rise in VCR ownership and its effects on ratings.

Re Soong/Singh. Maybe people are confused by the similarity between the names Khan Noonian Singh and Noonian Soong?

To add to Helen White's observations on men's difficulties with jumpsuits. I've noticed a gesture of Patrick Stewart's which was particularly noticeable in Coming of Age. Whenever he sits down, he pulls down his suit, smartly, presumably to combat the riding-up effect. I think that, playing Picard, he's been lucky enough to incorporate this gesture (which would look odd if anyone else did it) into the characterisation. The others just have to grit their teeth, I guess.

I agree with Ann Peters' comments on cons. I haven't been to one for years but am now tempted by the prospect of seeing post-first-season episodes. The only later ones I've been able to see were the second series episodes Q Who and The Emissary: the one tape available at any video shop around here. Maybe watching videos is not the right reason for wanting to go to cons, but I have no other prospect of seeing them any other way for years. Even if the BBC start the second series this autumn and show one a year, it's going to be autumn 1993 before they start showing the fourth series. I'm in the seeming minority (in view of all the anti-TNG sentiments voiced in the newsletter); a ST fan from its first showing in Britain who, despite the weaknesses in plot - TNG's greatest weakness, I feel - really enjoys the new series!

I know that I commented in my previous letter on Jacqueline Comben's article but Steve Lake raises some interesting points. Rights for Humans, let alone non-Human animals, are ferociously contested and non-existent in many cases, especially for non-Human animals. Yet there is evidence, for example, that dolphins (which are slaughtered every year in their thousands for little or no reason) have the equivalent intelligence level of a six year old Human. This would make them self-aware individuals with a certain capacity for learning. Yet they have no 'rights'. So, as Steve says, there are no automatic rights for apparently self aware organic life forms; 'rights' have to be granted by society.

Similarly, the ability to feel, as a criterion that something is 'alive', is not self evident and is open to acceptance or denial by both individuals and society as a whole, who may treat other races or species with cruelty or

callousness accordingly. Most people today would accept that mammals, at least, have the capacity to feel and suffer, although the debate still rages about fish, for example. Yet Descartes and others argued that they were merely organic machines without sense or feeling. Despite the fact that modern evidence shows that emotions arise in the Human equivalent of brain areas abundantly developed in mammals, Descartes still has followers. (See the abundant literature on animal rights.) Incidentally, cognitive psychology has now replaced behaviourism as the accepted mode for studying animals; this is the idea that animals solve problems through analysis and trying out solutions, and that this can be seen by their actions. In other words, their actions reveal understanding of the problem, not a knee-jerk reflex response.

To add to Steve's comments on dictionary definitions; according to the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary (two great volumes so I don't know what the longer OED is like!) *sentient* means feeling or being capable of feeling so I agree that self-aware is a better term. Similarly *android* means an automaton resembling a Human being while *automaton* means something which has the power of spontaneous motion. This term has been applied both to figures which simulate the actions of living beings and to living beings themselves, viewed materially or whose actions are purely involuntary or mechanical. In the same way, *machine* was first applied to animals and Humans to describe their physical workings in 1602 and was later applied to a person acting mechanically, without intelligence (1692). I don't think any of these definitions fit Data. It might be better to term him *synthetic*, a term first applied in 1912 to something made to simulate a natural product, or *artificial* - made by art or artifice, in imitation of something real, in this case a Human being. Skilfully made is another meaning, and he certainly was!

Another piece of information which people might find interesting is the Turing test, proposed by Cambridge mathematician Alan Turing who published a paper on the theoretical basis of the modern computer in 1937 (some years before anyone actually tried to build one.) Thought and consciousness were private experiences; the thoughts of others could only be known by the actions which revealed those thoughts (including the use of language to describe them). Therefore, he came up with a practical test to recognise machine intelligence; an interrogator would sit at a Teletype (the contemporary hardware at the time he wrote) and communicate with two hidden individuals, questioning each about their mental experience and trying to guess which was a man and which a woman. The next step would be to substitute a computer for one of the hidden Humans; if the interrogator could not distinguish machine from the remaining Human, Turing concluded that the computer had passed the test of thinking like a person! Needless to say Turing's writings generated as much controversy and heated argument as the debate about Data's self awareness. Data would certainly pass this test!

I must admit to confusion after reading a piece in the Official ST Magazine (issue 75) about Data's ability to feel. Apparently in The Ensigns of Command he says "I have no feelings of any kind." As far as I'm concerned, it is a bit late and dishonest on the part of the production team to put in a line like that when, from the very beginning, the character has shown signs which, in anyone else, would be taken to be involuntary emotional reactions, not carefully thought out simulations. There are countless examples merely in the first season episodes I've seen so far but a good one is the facial grimacing in Too Short a Season when the away team is under fire and he appears to be 'psyching himself up' to roll across the gap between himself and some cover. I'm not putting any blame on Spinner; he must have been given direction to play the character this way. If Data was never intended to have feelings, this should have been laid down by the script editor and others.

Personally, I think it would be much more in keeping with the portrayal and dramatically interesting if, although he did not have the overt emotions of Lore, he had a latent ability which is gradually growing due to interaction with Humans. Surely Soong should have realised that his mistake was not in giving Lore emotions but in failing to allow him to come to terms with them gradually and thereby develop self control. Lore has the emotional maturity of a two year old,

literally; he is the centre of his own universe and everyone else is there to gratify his desire or to act as toys. He never went through the stage a Human does of coming to realise, through its own powerlessness, that it does not have omnipotence and must make allowances for other people; this is a stage which psychologists see as happening around three years old. Emotionally, Lore has never grown up.

It was nice to see the By Any Other Name cut verified. I wrote to the Beeb at the second showing to protest, pointing out that this scene contained the clue to the title and the theme of the episode, getting the standard reply about having to cut ST for the 45 minute slot available.

Talking of cuts, I recall a scene in the blooper reel of Nona bathing under a waterfall (back view, naturally). Was this not part of the original episode (Private Little War) - I had a vague notion that it was this sight which distracted Kirk so he was attacked by the mugato? Of course, this could be a 20 year old memory playing me false. I've never been happy with Kirk's action in this episode of 'evening things up' between the hill and valley people and it struck me today that Too Short a Season could be seen as commenting on this; granted Jameson gives the weapons to both sides but he does it to save lives (the hostages in his case, Tyree and the hill people in Kirk's) and he even refers to it as being his own interpretation of the Prime Directive. That certainly reminds me of someone! Sometimes Kirk's interpretations seem justified, such as when a culture had dug a big hole for itself and could not have got out unaided - A Taste of Armageddon being an example - but I find other instances unacceptable. It's nice to see the Prime Directive being treated seriously in TNG and breaking it as very, very serious.

To comment on the synopsis of Hide and Q; from my recollection (since I don't have a copy of this episode thanks to my video playing up), Crusher expressed surprise when Data asked Riker to restore the child to life. I may be wrong but I don't remember her being there when the bridge crew was abducted; they probably would not have had time to bring her up to date until after the emergency. *[Sheila - yes, you're right; it was Data who asked Riker, and Crusher said "I don't understand, you can't bring her back to life,"... but from the expectant way she was looking at Riker during the exchange, my day-after memory was that she did know and expect Riker to react. Sorry about that.]* Yes, Yar in tears is a bit of an oddity though I suppose it's just barely acceptable as being the result of frustration in someone who has had to be self-reliant to a far greater extent than usual.

Re Q Who which, as I mentioned above, I have just managed to see. Who thought up that dope Sonia Gomez? Gormless Gomez would be more apt. By all means let's have a woman who's clumsy, but make her competent in her job, not someone who stands around like a spare part in a crisis and generally seems unable to cope. We're told she's academically brilliant by Geordi's reference to her thesis, but frankly she belongs in an academic job; she seems to be incompetent in anything practical.

To help Judy Mortimore's recollections on Stag Con '81: I had a look through my slide collection and for the fancy dress came up with the following; two women as androids from I Mudd; Miri (Rana) in a floor length shiny red dress, Janet, Sheila and Valerie in original series male uniform, two women as McCoy's and Spock's Christmas presents to each other (a witch doctor and a devil), Darth Vader and an Imperial commander, Adala's sister from Buck Rogers (skinny cossie), Sue Moore as Dish of the Day from Hitchhiker, Marion Meade as the Grey Mouser (from Fritz Leiber's Fafhrd and Grey Mouser stories) and Martin Smith and Chris Chivers as Zaphod Beebebrox and Arthur Dent (Hitchhiker again). Oh, and there was a German fan as T'Pring who wore her costume for the rest of the con and took the role so seriously that she never smiled and, when bidding in the auction, held her hand up in a Vulcan salute! *[Ed - that would be Charlotte Davies. T'Pring was her favourite character and she wrote a series of very good stories about Stonn and T'Pring.]*

Re the names - no, I don't have a marvellous memory, Judy, I labelled the slides, luckily! Where I didn't know who they were, I couldn't label accordingly, hence the vagueness. In the fashion show, there were about four collections, though they haven't been sufficiently clearly labelled to be sure; one was of Vulcan mythological figures featuring Barbara Kitson as Lady of the Ships, a Death figure and Helen McCarthy (not sure of her character but she danced). Another collection had Marion Meade in a peacock blue dress with dark blue sleeves and head-dress; I'm not sure but she may have been in the same collection as Kate Davies in a black and white silken dress. The prize winning collection had four people in shiny wigs - silver, green, gold and (I think) red - with black gossamer costumes studded with matching shining patterns which actually lit up (the lights were taken down to see this at best effect). There was a Matriarchal collection also, featuring Matriarch, various female officials and two male slaves, one of whom was played by Chris Chivers.

Roger Buck:

This will be a long letter. For months I've not found time for many issues I've wanted to raise, but I cannot restrain myself longer. The first is simply appreciation. I cannot tell you how grateful I am to receive the newsletter, and how much *fun* it has been for me. I tend to take life too seriously sometimes, and so this is an important service to me. Thank you, Janet, Sheila, Valerie, Karen, Helen and everyone else.

On the subject of appreciation I would like to suggest a series of appreciations in the magazine. These would be articles appreciating anyone in the Star Trek world, perhaps giving thanks for what you have received from her or him. It could be Bill Shatner or Patrick Stewart, or it could be a lesser known musician, set designer or director for the show, or a fan. Appreciation and gratitude are powerful tonics for the soul and the world can use more of their expression. You know criticism is very common, and there are professional critics, but I look forward to a time of professional appreciators. I suggest also that if the committee has the energy to spare (and it may not) that the subject of each appreciation be forwarded a copy of the newsletter, where possible, with a note indicating that the issue contains a recognition of that person. I think the above would improve an already very fine newsletter, as well as perform an important service of communication. What do you think?

And now on to a more discontented note. I am grateful to CIC for the care with which they are releasing TNG videos, but I am suffering from a lack of patience. Surely they would make far more money if they could release the videos more quickly. If, for example, they were to release the tapes at the rate of the original series, or even faster, they could get well ahead of the current television transmission. In this event, I believe they would find more buyers, as in the present situation people are simply content to tape from the BBC. I was disappointed in June and December when no TNG video was released, not because I was anxiously awaiting the next shows (which I had seen on rental) but because it delayed the eagerly anticipated second season (most of which I haven't seen) being released on video. If CIC can release new TNG never before seen here well ahead of the BBC, I believe they stand to make money as well as do us a great service.

I have written to CIC to ask this, pointing out my belief that it will be more lucrative for them if they could be releasing the third season shows, etc., sooner rather than later. I have also spoken on the phone and have the name and address of the lady responsible there. I would like to ask IDIC to print these details, in case others wish to join me in writing. I feel a number of polite letters to her could result in us not having to wait so many years to see the episodes the Americans are currently enjoying now. Here are the details of whom to write: Michelle MacKay, CIC Videos (Sell Through Dept), Fourth Floor, Glenholme House, 5-17 Hammersmith Grove, Hammersmith, London W6 0ND. Tel: 081 846 9433.

Of course, some may wish to make other requests known to CIC. I would like to see all 22 animated episodes released at £9.99 per tape, plus the complete ST-TMP. (The original cinema version of this is 132 minutes and the expanded TV 143, but

the CIC's is edited down to 124! I have rented this, and it looks glorious on pre-recorded video, but I will not buy until it is available with those additional 19 minutes). I would also like to see Gene Roddenberry's other science fiction pilots available, The Questor Tapes, Genesis II and Planet Earth, as well as Spectre. I understand Questor was made by Universal. If nothing else, CIC should be able to market this as they also handle that studio's work, making possible in this country a situation Gene has said (in The Star Trek Interview Book, I think) he wishes was possible in the U.S.

It will be obvious from the above that I am one of these people fortunate to have a video, and I want to share how special this has been for me. Over a year ago, my wife and I were given a video player, partially as a belated wedding gift, and we were also able to acquire a large colour television. I hadn't had a TV for years and had only seen ST on a small black and white set in the U.S.A. some years back. My wife also had loved Star Trek when she had seen it in German in her native Switzerland. Upon receiving this gift, as far as I was concerned there was only one reason for its existence, Star Trek! We haven't had much finances, but through Christmas, birthdays etc., and spending money on very little else in terms of luxuries, I have managed to acquire a fair collection of the CIC videos. It is so wonderful to see them in this format, large screen, colour, crystal clear, no edits, adverts; I think they look completely gorgeous. TNG is a revelation, and I am very, very grateful for it. I am glad that Star Trek has been so beautifully extended and view these TNG episodes as gifts I will cherish in addition to Star Trek for the rest of my life. I am especially thankful because there is little else I enjoy seeing as much as Star Trek. I have seen quite a number of films over the last year, but hardly any moved me the way Trek does, and Trek unlike any other film feels like *home* for me. We haven't a TV license and simply use the screen as a video monitor (I'd rather have 7 or 8 videos a year than the price of a license and in the time we have, we'd both rather watch ST than normal television, anyway).

As for favourite episodes, for the original I'd choose The Cage, Enemy Within, Devil in the Dark, City on the Edge of Forever, Bread and Circuses and The Motion Picture. As for the first season of TNG, I'd choose Where No One Has Gone Before above everything. I think this episode is magnificent, rivalling City on the Edge of Forever as my favourite ST ever. I also love Encounter at Farpoint, Hide and Q, Heart of Glory and quite a few others. I have been lucky enough to see some second and third season shows also, and my favourite of these has to be The Offspring.

Another subject I'd like to raise is the fate of the original cast past Star Trek VI. Although I like TNG equally to the original, I am most fond of the original crew. Feeling greedy, I confess that 79 episodes, 22 animations and six films are not as much as I'd prefer. Star Trek is for me a filmed medium, and I am not someone who enjoys reading the fiction nearly as much as I appreciate the great television episodes. I therefore hope to see and hear a little more of Kirk, Spock and McCoy past the sixth film. Even though I have reservations about the non-Roddenberry films, I do like III and IV and would welcome more.

There seem to be several possibilities, depending on the success of the sixth film. If Star Trek VI is phenomenally successful on the order of IV, we might, with a letter writing campaign, get VII. Star Trek VII, under normal circumstances, really would be the end, as at the current rate, Shatner and Nimoy would be around 65 by the time they got around to a Star Trek VIII. However another possibility, if Star Trek VI should be very successful, is to campaign for Paramount to make two, preferably three films together, in the way the Back to the Future sequels were done. This way, we might get three more films with the original cast before they really are too old to continue.

In conjunction with discussion about post Star Trek VI films, one must contemplate the retiring of some of the older actors from the series. While I would not wish to see new actors play the old parts or a film series with Captains Sulu or Chekov, or simply Kirk, I would be willing to pay this price of doing without some characters for good films that explored the Kirk-Spock relationship further, perhaps retaining Sulu and Chekov who are younger and creating some other

more youthful crew members.

If Star Trek VI is not successful or only moderately so, then I think we need to face the end of the film series in the usual sense. The possibility then exists that the actors could be lured back for some sort of American television mini series.

Perhaps I am in danger of being fanatical, but I really would like to see some final hours with the original cast, provided they were well done. For the same reason, I wish that those with the power to decide would relent and we could see a two or even three part, time-travel crossover story in the final Next Generation season where the old crew meet the new. It would be especially wonderful to see Kirk, Spock and McCoy under the control of their creator, once more.

On the same subject, I would like to thank John Taylor for letting me know I am not alone. I, too, have wondered about more Star Trek animation. I had never seen the animated shows before, but found a couple of the tapes for rental in the children's section of a local video. I must say I was impressed by the best episodes I saw and it was a real joy to hear the voices of Shatner, Nimoy and Kelley in adventures completely new to me. I will have to wait until I see more, including Yesteryear, the episode I hear is best, but I suspect that I could end up preferring these to the last four films or even the third season. With D.C. Fontana and Gene Roddenberry involved, it came as no surprise to find how much I liked these and I'm very thankful for the existence of this part of the Star Trek universe. The flaws with the best of these episodes then, are not the scripts or the acting, but the animation, plus a music score which appears identical in every episode.

I wonder with John what difference top quality animation would make, and have contemplated a rotoscoped Trek. Do other members know what rotoscoping is? It refers to animation that is not drawn but traced, that is, instead of the artist creating an individual drawing for each still of the film, she or he traces over a live action film still. The most well known use of this technique was in Ralph Bakshi's films Lord of the Rings and Fire and Ice. For these efforts, Bakshi filmed the entire movie in live action before giving it over to his animators to trace. The result is an effect that, while perhaps not especially creative, is highly realistic and bears an extreme resemblance to the original actors. The point with Star Trek of course is that the effort and expense of an original film would not be needed! Dozens of hours of film at least, already exist showing the original cast in every conceivable action, mood or expression! Further, by tracing over the original footage of the television show, an effect might be achieved that was closer to the feel of the series than the live action films. If this was complemented by an effort to get back to the spirit of the classic series, with stories set in the same period by the likes of Fontana, Roddenberry, Gerrold or Jerome Bixby and perhaps even using the best music from the past, I might like such shows better than the last films. The time involved by the actors to voice their lines would be comparatively small and they would not even need to be together in the studio at the same time.

There, now I have shared what I have never shared before and what has seemed a crazy dream. I would sincerely like to hear what others think about this, as the only chance this dream could become reality is if enough fans felt about it the way I feel. I doubt they do, and that this will remain a dream, but all the same I will write to John and tell him how I feel. The only difference I have with John is that I would prefer to see the above techniques employed in a television series rather than a film series, with years for intervals. If you also long for more hours with the original crew in this way, I would urge you to join me in writing to John. I would really like to know how many of us feel the same.

Having said all this about animated Trek, I must say none of it would be worthwhile for me if all it produced was animated Wrath of Khan type films. There would have to be a real attempt to recapture the spirit of the original series. I feel that in certain aspects the last Star Trek films with their space battle

emphasis and militaristic feel have more in common with Star Wars, than the classic series. Space battles were rarely seen there, and the greatest space battle episode, Balance of Terror, is more a commentary on the tragedy of war and stupidity of prejudice than it is an action-for-its-own-sake type of story.

Concerning future animated Trek, I must say I imagine it will probably remain a fantasy, and it is not even my chief longing when it comes to ST. That desire would be for Gene Roddenberry to write some further teleplays before TNG completes its run. I really love Gene's writing for Star Trek and treasure the episodes he wrote, The Cage/Menagerie, Bread and Circuses, A Private Little War, Return To Tomorrow and The Omega Glory, as well as Farpoint and Hide and Q. (I haven't seen The Savage Curtain in ten years, so am waiting till I get CIC's release of that). Rewatching Star Trek this last year and a half, I feel very touched and moved by the tone and philosophy of Gene's writing. For days and weeks after seeing his episodes I have been stirred and stimulated to think by the depth and beauty of these shows. I believe Gene is a *great* writer and the humanity and philosophy that is especially evident in his own scripts has been very meaningful to me.

The philosophy of Star Trek is its single most important aspect for me, and on that level I'd also like to appreciate Gene Coon's episodes, Arena, Devil in the Dark, Errand of Mercy, Metamorphosis and Spectre of the Gun as well as Jerome Bixby's Mirror, Mirror and Day of the Dove, and Richard Matheson's The Enemy Within. In my opinion, these shows, along with Gene's, form the core of episodes which presented the original Star Trek's vision of essential Human goodness, the triumph of morality and our evolution into a higher order. I would also include Is There in Truth No Beauty? a favourite episode which I feel is one of the very few third season shows in which Gene R. was involved in rewriting.

Related to this last and as a final note, I wish to state my difference of opinion from Ann Peters when she states that Human nature hasn't changed in two thousand years and that it is "ridiculous" we will ever transcend our savagery. My own analysis of history suggests that Human beings have changed enormously in just the last five hundred years, and that a much greater proportion of humanity in the past was in the child/savage state than is presently the case. Five hundred years ago and less, as Q states, we were "murdering each other over tribal god images" in a way that would be incredible today. I wonder how many readers realise the main justification for the Catholic Church's crushing of the Celtic Christianity was an argument about priestly haircuts, or the vast numbers who were slaughtered in the Reformation over the issue of transubstantiation, that is whether or not the wine in the communion service was actually blood or just wine? I wonder how well we remember that up until the 1830's in this country we still had public executions, and that a time existed when this was an event one took one's family to see? I wonder if we forgot the emergence of great charities in the last two hundred years, or the progress made in democracy and equality for women, the poor and minorities?

I am not a Christian in the sense I affiliate myself with any religion, but I suspect that Christ's parable about the good Samaritan who helped the dying man after many others had passed by was quite revolutionary at the time, yet this attitude of caring would be natural for great numbers of us now. Today compassion and the impulse to help others is much more developed. Human beings still do terrible things to one another, but there is a growing movement of charity, justice and equality that was totally unknown several hundred years ago. I have had this difference of opinion before with others, who associate these changes with a thin veneer of civilisation holding our unchanged savage natures in check. But why would we have developed this civilisation, flawed as it is, with many magnificent attempts to care for our brothers and sisters if we had not grown in our hearts? I cannot prove my point any more than those who hold an opposing one can prove theirs, but I believe profoundly in growth and evolution and that our savage natures are being slowly sublimated by love. The next centuries will tell, but I agree with Gene and Star Trek that The Human Adventure is Just Beginning.

Marie Chettle:

Being a Sherlock Holmes fan, as well as a Star Trek one, I bought the book The

Television Sherlock Holmes which has just been revised and updated. Imagine my surprise when I turned to page 71 and discovered that in a 90 minute version of The Hound of the Baskervilles shown in 1972, the part of Stapleton was played by none other than William Shatner. Then as I carried on to page 73, I discovered that Leonard Nimoy played Sherlock Holmes in a 15 minute short called The Interior Motive? in 1976.

Kevin Marshall:

Although I realise that TNG is what's 'new', I joined IDIC because of my love for the original series. I would therefore ask for more information on the original series. For some people this may not be new, but I am new to fandom and would certainly be delighted to get more information on the original actors and how the series was put together.

By the way, has anyone got a copy of David Gerrold's The World of Star Trek? I'd pay a very reasonable price for it!!

[Ed: We do our best to balance the newsletter between classic Trek and TNG with what submissions we are sent. I'm sure if you would specify what kind of information you are after someone out there will come up with an article. We are planning to print more profiles of the original cast.]

Edward Woo:

In N/L 14, someone asked for details about the Klingon Empire. I have been able to find the following details; I hope it helps.

One Parsec is 3.26 light years.

If we take Sol as the approx centre of the UFP, it sits in the interior of the Orion arm of the Milky Way. Sol is approx. 4750 parsecs from the Border Neutral Zone between the Klingon Empire and the Federation. This border neutral zone is defined as the Organian Treaty Zone where space station K7 sits. Any distance beyond this is the Klingon Empire. It is believed that the centre of the Klingon Empire lies in the Perseus arm of the Milky Way ie. approx 6750 parsecs from Sol.

As for comparisons between the Federation and Klingon Empire. It is believed that Starfleet is ahead in its organization, sustainability and merchant fleet supplies, whereas the Klingons are ahead in close to home response times for action. Both have parity in training, experience and combat. The Klingons are closing the gap on the Federation in weapons/equipment, doctrine, strategic tactics and long range response times.

Disrupter weapons and pistols break down the cohesion of molecules.

Sources: *Starship Design, Starfleet Technical Manual, Starfleet Line Officers Manual.*

Graham Probert & Clair Roberts: Thanks for replying to my request but the actual book I want is the Making of ST:TMP and not the paperback novel - see my wanted ad later.

Lesley Hatch: You commented on the question of Picard's duties during the 9 years between Stargazer and Enterprise. After convalescing and shore leave, I doubt that he would have been demoted during his court martial hearing. Demoting an officer for the now legendary Picard Manoeuvre would be unthinkable in Starfleet. During those years I believe Picard would have been assigned to other duties within Starfleet to gain further experience. He may have got temporary assignments to command Federation vessels until a more permanent post arose - namely the new Galaxy Class, USS Enterprise.

I think Captain Kirk would have appreciated the Traveller if only to improve the capabilities of the ship, as a Captain always wants the best ship possible. He would have had to obey Starfleet orders for experiments to be carried out on the Enterprise's engines. He had to do a similar undertaking in the Ultimate Computer

with M5. What I think Kirk is possessive about it, he wants to command a starship and its crew but not the technology. The status of being a Starship Captain is what Kirk enjoys - and who wouldn't.

Steve Davis: There was a comment in n/l 14 about how Dr. McCoy became an Admiral in Encounter at Farpoint. Personally, when I heard this many years ago I couldn't believe it either. How does a Doctor become an Admiral, clearly not possible. Well in my research for another item I found the following in TNG Officers Manual. It mentions Starfleet had revamped its ranking system extending the rank of Branch Admiral to the Medical, Security and Engineering Depts. So I believe Dr. McCoy is a Branch Admiral for his work in the field of Medicine for Starfleet, whilst Admiral Kirk is a real Admiral in the sense of a full working knowledge of Starfleet Operations, its aims and procedures.

Another point I noticed was, does Dr. Crusher hold a command rank and is she in the chain of command for a starship? Clearly Dr. Crusher is the Chief Medical Officer on the Enterprise and head of the Medical Department. According to Starfleet's Starship chain of command, to head a department, an officer must be of commander status or above. Therefore I can conclude that Dr. Crusher has an honorary rank of Commander. She wears 3 solid silver circles on her uniform collar to signify her rank as commander. Being a commander she can take command of the bridge for a temporary while until a more suitable officer is available, even if of less rank. This was demonstrated in Angel One as she relieved a sick La Forge until Lt. Cmdr. Data returned to assume bridge command.

Counselor Troi is the ship's Counselor but she wears no solid silver circles on her uniform. This would indicate she is not in the ship's chain of command, however she does hold the rank of commander, being an honorary status for the job she does on the Enterprise, unique to Betazoids.

Helen White: If you read the two previous paragraphs, I'd agree with your opinion that Data is in the command chain. He holds the rank of Lt. Cmdr. and such rank means he is next in line if Picard or Riker are unavailable to command the bridge or an away team. He does get command in Angel One briefly. As Picard said in Datalore, Humans have chemical reactions to produce energy, whereas Data is just another type of being using electrical and electronic means to produce energy. Starfleet would not have given Data the rank of Lt. Cmdr. if he had not passed all the required tests and the Academy. On hollow silver circle and 2 solid silver circles on the uniform collar indicate a rank of Lt. Cmdr. for Data.

One thing I have noticed over recent Next Generation episodes, is at times the Bridge crew looks a bit pedestrian. I mean that in most situations, in communicating via the view screen they dramatically stand up and move up to the conn and ops positions. It may well be dramatic but compared with Kirk, Spock and Scotty, they would have rested easily in their command chair and done their talking from there - a more relaxed and it would seem a calmer control on things. Has anyone else spotted any other features they have noticed between old and new Star Trek?

Over the past newsletters I have found the articles written by Jason Hart and Teresa Abbott most interesting about the cuts in the episodes of ST. I would have never known that many minutes have been taken away from so many episodes just to fit it into the BBC's TV schedule. In the distant past I did realise that the TV episodes were different from the ones at the cons but I thought the changes were subtle. But since you have pointed them out, they are quite noticeable now.

Lloyd Lewis:

Having just read Barbara Hambly's Ghost-Walker (why don't cover artists take the time out to actually read the book?) I reread Ishmael and her Darwath trilogy. I enjoyed Ghost-Walker, especially some of the characterizations - but compared to her earlier work her latest is uninspired and formulaic, not classic Hambly and could have been written by any competent author. Does anyone know if the Pocket Books/Titan editors are capable of this sort of suppression?

Well, that's all the classic episodes on video. Are CIC going to speed up the release of ST:TNG to 2 or more a month? *[Ed: We wish they would, why not write and ask them.]*

Kathleen Glancy - even without reading Shatner's and his daughter's accounts I think he did a good job. It's a fantasy film, not a documentary - a little old-fashioned suspension-of-disbelief-works wonders.

Gloria Fry - I like TNG, I've met lots of others who do. The BBC appear happy enough with the viewing figures. I can't understand this schism between classic and TNG fans - or the delight that some people take in furthering it. *[Ed: Our impression is that the majority of fans like both to some extent but it is often those with strong views, for or against, who write in.]*

Does anyone have, or have access to, a recording of Nichelle Nichols' one woman show? If so, please write.

78 years later, the shirt colour has changed but they still stand with their back to the prisoners (Heart of Glory) and they still stand up to be shot at. No prizes for guessing of whom I speak.

Marvel's TNG Comic continues to be aimed at a very young audience, and even then it's patronizing - they haven't printed the letter I sent them correcting the many factual errors in their first issue.

Ann Peters:

Wow - what a piece of work was Steve Lake's article in n/l 14! How skilfully he pointed out the inconsistencies and prejudices in Jacqueline Comben's android article. And how wonderful to see such whole-hearted support for Data in the postbag section. One point that wasn't adequately answered, however, was Jacqueline's contention that, without feelings, Data would have no compassion, and therefore should not be put in command of Humans. I have tried to address this point in an article. *[Ed: Apologies Ann but we're holding it for the next n/l.]*

To Helen White: Yes, Helen, I did know about the firming girdles worn under the jumpsuits, but there is a limit to what a girdle can do. It can hardly explain the chest and shoulders that looked so impressive on Lore, once he donned a Starfleet uniform. Perhaps I should mention that I never intended to call Lore 'very podgy', but it got a bit confused in the typing (mine, not Janet's). Actually, I think Data's appearance has suffered most with the uniform change. He has the most attractive proportions of all of the males in the cast, and the jumpsuit really showed that off. Now he looks by far the lumpiest, because an android doesn't keep adjusting things like all the others do - except on the odd occasion when he thinks no-one's looking.

And still to Helen, re your comments about the practicality of males in jumpsuits: Men indulge in countless sporting activities which tend to put their self-esteem in considerable jeopardy, and they have developed a number of appliances to protect themselves in this respect. While con attendees may not wish to go to the expense of providing themselves with such protection, I'm sure that professional actors would insist on it. I would certainly be the last person to expect an actor to endanger his future prospects for the sake of his appearance, but, judging by the way they all moved around in the first two seasons, I can't believe there was any problem in that area. O.K. - perhaps they didn't move around nearly as much as Kirk and Co., but I haven't noticed them moving any faster in their two-piece uniforms. In fact, I do believe they're even slower!

I'm not advocating a return to jumpsuits - I know there's no chance of that anyway - but I do prefer the way the men looked in them. I shall simply consider that we're lucky to have had two whole seasons of decent looking male forms, and content myself with that. What really bugs me, though, is the double standard involved. We are told that the males are more comfortable in the two-piece, but it can't be used for the females because it doesn't look good on them. What is

important for the men is how they themselves feel, regardless of how they appear to others; what is important for the women is that every curve of the body should be accentuated for the men to enjoy watching, regardless of any discomfort involved. In both cases, it is the male perspective that counts. I know there is sexism in the 20th century, but there was some suggestion in TNG, initially at least, that it might have gone by the 24th.

Another example of degeneration of TNG philosophy is Riker's attitude to animals. In *Lonely Among Us*, he tells the Anticans than Humans 'no longer enslave animals for food purposes'; and I applaud that, but in *The Icarus Factor*, we find out that he is not averse to exploiting animals for leisure purposes - ie fishing. Does TNG now condone blood sports? It would seem so.

By the way, Janet, what happened to *Lonely Among Us* in the episode reviews?
[Janet: Oops! I lost track of the BBC screening order - it's in this time.]

If Denise Crosby wants to return as a regular, as long as it can be done believably, surely there is no problem. Just give her a plastic 'H' to wear on her forehead. I particularly liked the Red Dwarf line about *Tales of the Riverbank*: The Next Generation not being as good as the original.

On the subject of STVI, what I'd like to see, is the Enterprise crew solving a mystery/problem/crisis as a team. Only STIV gave a decent part to everybody and depended more on skills than on pure luck. I agree with Richard Drinkwater that it might be nice to see what the Enterprise can really do for a change. I would also like humour and wonderful special effects and I'd like it to be aimed at a wider audience than just avid fans, which would mean not overdoing the relationship aspect. If it doesn't appeal to the non-Trekker, it won't make enough money to be considered a success by the movie world.

Jayne Harden:

Firstly, fabulous n/l, they're getting more and more interesting. And may I just say thank you to Elena Bond for praising Jonathan Frakes, although others mention Riker they tend to forget Mr Frakes. I recently saw him in *The Waltons* and he had me close to tears. I feel he is extremely talented and absolutely gorgeous, especially his eyes, WOW!

I have just come back from the States where I visited the Enterprise 1701 shop in down town Orlando. It was great, they do everything on ST, mugs, badges, Tribbles, the list is endless. They were very friendly and helpful, they offered to ship large objects home for me. Now that's what I call Customer Services. The address is Enterprise 1701, Troy Pope, Manager, 2814 Corrine Dr., Orlando, FL 32803, USA. *[Ed: We don't know if they do mail order.]*

YOUR QUESTIONS

D. Brown: In the Marvel TNG comic they had a mission report on the episode *Skin of Evil* in which Tasha Yar dies. They also list the 1st season episodes with stardates and US airdates. *Skin of Evil* stardate 41601.3 comes before *Angel One* 41636.9, *The Big Goodbye* 41997.7 and *The Battle* 41723.9. In these episodes Yar appears. I know from the airdates that these were shown before *Skin of Evil* but it does seem that someone has made a big mistake.

[Janet: With the exception of the first two digits the stardates are fairly random. The order in which stories are accepted for TNG is not necessarily the order in which they are filmed or aired. As to the first 2 digits: 41 is season 1, 42 season 2, 43 season 3 etc.]

Steve Davies: Has Scotty ever worn a kilt? If so, when?

[Sheila: He wore one as dress uniform in Savage Curtain - also in Is There In Truth No Beauty.]

Roger Buck: Has Gene Roddenberry's *The Questor Tapes*, *Genesis II*, *Planet Earth*, and *Spectre* ever been seen on British TV? If so, when and on what station, and are

they likely to be seen again? Have any ever been available on video? And does the post atomic horror sequence in Encounter at Farpoint relate in an obvious way to Genesis II/Planet Earth (in other words, do these films tie in with the Star Trek universe)? (If anyone has the energy I would love an article about these or further comments as I have never seen them).

[Janet: All four films have been shown in Britain. I remember seeing Planet Earth and Genesis II in the early 70s and Genesis II was shown again in the early 80s. Qwestor Tapes was also shown in the early 70s but it was shown again, on STV I think, a few years back. Spectre was shown on STV more recently, a year or two ago. I can't tell you the exact dates as my cuttings aren't up to date but I think it was before we started IDIC. None of the films are available on video.

Gene is the only one who can say whether Planet Earth and Genesis II fit into the Star Trek universe. I have my doubts although since Gene wrote then there may be some link - Data is after all a development from Qwestor.]

YOUR SUGGESTIONS

Steve Davies: With all these honorary members I think it would be nice to have a few words from one of them once in a while - their own views and thoughts on the movies/TNG/ST as a whole.

[No promises but we'll see what we can do. Gene has been kind enough to write us a couple of letters for the newsletter.]

Mike Mullen asks why we have so much space devoted to zine adverts but cut the club listings and wonders if we could alternate the two in newsletters.

[We would be interested to hear what other members have to say on this subject - our rationale is as follows:

A large proportion of members read zines and new members are entering the world of zines all the time. They may buy one, enjoy it, and look for more. Being zine publishers ourselves we want zine buyers to be able to look on the IDIC newsletter as an up-to-date source of information on what is available.

There is also the point that zine adverts are being updated all the time as new zines are printed, whereas in general club adverts do not change. When new members join IDIC we send them a complete list of British Star Trek clubs which includes membership details - this list is currently 5 pages long. Do members really want 5 pages of unchanging club adverts in the newsletter? The list is available to any IDIC member if they send Janet a SAE plus an extra 17p stamp. We will print updates on club adverts plus adverts for new clubs in the newsletter.]

Barbel Schmidt feels that Terry Griffith left out some important details in her synopses of the new 4th season TNG episodes.

[Terry's episode synopses are just meant to give a brief taster of the episodes - the kind of thing you might read in the Radio or TV Times. We can give more details if enough members want but we thought it would be fairer not to give detailed synopses of the episodes until they have been shown in Britain.]

CAN YOU HELP?

John Spelling: asks if there is an 'official' fan explanation for the change of appearance in the Klingons (between the original series and the movies and TNG).

P.K. Davis wonders if someone can explain the differences between the CIC version of ST:TMP and the TV version shown on 1/1/91. Some differences were:

- 1) The Klingon cruisers at the beginning were a blue colour in the TV version and green in the CIC version.
 - 2) On Vulcan the background shot of the volcanoes and the moons, the ground was a distinct red colour, and in the CIC version the background seemed to lack any rich colour.
 - 3) I also noticed many scenes were shot at different angles, and some were missing.
- [Janet: I can answer the last question. The version of ST:TMP shown on TV was a

re-edited longer version with additional footage. Some of what was edited out of the cinema version for 'time' was put back in.]

CONNECTIONS IN STAR TREK

by Martin Stahl

Although you can enjoy each Star Trek episode if you don't know the rest of the series you enjoy it much more if you have seen the other episodes. This results from the development of the characters (both series), recurring characters or incidents which are mentioned in later episodes.

Here is a schedule of connections between the episodes (and even both series):

original series/movies; animated series; *The Next Generation*

The Enterprise visits the planet Talos IV: The Cage, The Menagerie.
 The Enterprise encounters the energy barrier at the edge of the galaxy; Where No Man Has Gone Before, By Any Other Name.
 The Corbomite bluff: The Corbomite Maneuver, The Deadly Years.
 Harry Mudd: Mudd's Women, I Mudd, Mudd's Passion.
 Psi 2000 virus: The Naked Time, *The Naked Now*.
 Shore leave planet: Shore Leave, Once Upon a Planet.
 Time travel via the slingshot effect: Tomorrow is Yesterday, Assignment: Earth, The Voyage Home.
 Spock's mind control upon another person in order to escape; A Taste of Armageddon, By Any Other Name.
 Khan: Space Seed, The Wrath of Khan.
 The Organian Peace Treaty: Errand of Mercy, The Trouble With Tribbles.
 Kor: The Errand of Mercy, Time Trap.
 The Guardian of Forever: The City on the Edge of Forever, Yesteryear.
 The planet Vulcan: Amok Time, Journey to Babel, Yesteryear, The Motion Picture, The Search for Spock, The Voyage Home, Sarek.
 Tribbles: The Trouble With Tribbles, More Tribbles, More Troubles.
 Kirk mentions the Vians and the Tholian Incident; The Empath, The Tholian Web, Turnabout Intruder.
 Father and son Decker (although it is not mentioned that Will is Matt Decker's son it is generally accepted in fandom); The Doomsday Machine, The Motion Picture.
 The incidents around Genesis: The Wrath of Khan, The Search for Spock, The Voyage Home, The Final Frontier.
 Dr. McCoy: classic Trek, *Encounter at Farpoint*.
 Q: *Encounter at Farpoint*, Hide and Q, Q Who?, *Deja Q*, Q and Order.
 The Traveller: *Where No One Has Gone Before*, *Remember Me*.
 Lwaxana Troi: *Haven*, *Manhunt*, *Menage a Troi*. She is also mentioned in *Captain's Holiday* and *Remember Me*.
 Lore: *Datalore*, *Brothers*.
 Picard as Dixon Hill: *The Big Goodbye*, *Manhunt*.
 Minuet: *11001001*, *Future Imperfect*.
 Mysterious incidents at Starfleet Headquarters: *Coming of Age*, *Conspiracy*.
 Wesley meets a Benzite of the same stock: *Coming of Age*, *A Matter of Honor*.
 Tasha Yar's death: *Skin of Evil*, *The Measure of a Man*, *Yesterday's Enterprise*, *Legacy*.
 The ship's doctor uses a device to let a person forget everything about the Enterprise in order not to violate the prime directive: *Pen Pals*, *Who Watches the Watchers?*
 Geological problems on Drema IV: *Pen Pals*, *Family*.
 The Borg: *The Neutral Zone*, *Q Who?*, *Peak Performance*, *The Best of Both Worlds*, *Family*.
 The Pakleds: *The Samaritan Snare*, *Brothers*.

Klingons with whom Worf is involved: *The Emissary*, *Sins of the Father*, *Reunion*.
 Tomolock the Romulan: *The Enemy*, *The Defector*, *Future Imperfect*.

This list does not include the Romulans and the Klingons in general as they have appeared in too many episodes to mention them all.

WHICH ENTERPRISE?

by Edwin Yau

From the original series Enterprise through to The Next Generation Enterprise, there have been 6 versions of this famous starship including the refitted movie Enterprise. But, which one do you prefer? Let's take a look at each one.

a) The original Enterprise.

This Enterprise is a Constitution class starship. She is the most famous of all the Enterprises, and has been seen in all the original series episodes of Star Trek.

Externally, this Enterprise was totally different from all other SF ships in other series when she made her first appearance on 8th September 1966. The ship still had a 60s' feel though, with her general design and the equipment design - (too much plastic was in evidence!) - used aboard the ship. However, you must bear in mind the equipment and technology available in the 60s, as well as the budget!

Internally, this Enterprise was very plush, bright and colourful - a response to the recent advent of colour TV, and the need to use colour as widely as possible. A good idea in the end, as it made her cosier than other SF ships in the 60s.

In terms of power, she had the latest in 22nd century technology, with speeds of warp 6, and a max. emergency speed of warp 8.

b) The movie Enterprise.

The Constitution class starship was refitted to Enterprise Class, and seen in ST-TMP, STII-TWOK, STIII-TSFS.

When I first saw this Enterprise I thought "*Wow, what a beautiful ship!*". I was literally gobsmacked. The external design was perfect in many respects, and there was a good use of streamlining and well-defined corners when needed.

Internally, the design was "good, but not that good". There was better use of "modern" 70s' technology, but all those round screens, unmarked clusters of buttons - how did they know which button did what? - and flashing lights gave it the completely wrong feel inside. The bridge was too dark at times and it felt as if it had shrunk compared to the cosier and brighter Constitution Enterprise.

Around the ship, everything was just all dull shades of grey and white, and bad use of orange carpeting. This Enterprise felt "empty" inside. There was a "submarine feel" to her. However there were some neat touches around the ship which saved it from being too dull. (eg the rec room was good).

The movie Enterprise had an approximate 33% increase in power, giving her a speed of warp 8 with an emergency warp speed of 10. She also had improved shielding and phaser power.

c) The movie Enterprise - A.

This starship is a brand new ship of the Enterprise class, and seen in STIV:TVH, STV:TFF and the forthcoming STVI.

Though the same design externally, Enterprise-A is much brighter and striking than the first movie Enterprise. This is also true inside, (especially on the bridge), where you can see that the drab colours of the old movie Enterprise have been replaced. Enterprise-A is a vast improvement internally over the original movie Enterprise. Now she is larger, brighter and sleeker (an 80s/90s ship).

The technology inside Enterprise-A is more up-to-date, with smooth, touch-sensitive panels and screens akin to Enterprise-D. She has better fire power and shields than the old movie Enterprise. From what I have found out, she is faster than the first movie Enterprise in terms of speed and acceleration (I think she can make warp 9 cruising, warp 12 max. emergency speed), but does not have Transwarp as it officially doesn't work. (Paramount say the engines on the Excelsior blew up on the first real test run.)

Enterprise-A gives the impression that she can handle herself in a battle when necessary. She has a peaceful, yet dominating appearance. Like a woman of the 90s, she can be both beautiful and hard working, ready to go into action, or gracefully speed through space.

d) The Enterprise-B.

This is an Excelsior class starship, though it has not been seen yet in any of the TNG episodes. However, it looks exactly like the USS Excelsior and any other Excelsior class starship (see STIII:TSFS & STIV:TVH for a look).

As I haven't seen the Enterprise-B, I will assume that Enterprise-B is similar to Enterprise-A internally, except that everything is on a larger scale. Externally, she is also a beautiful ship, but I don't like the lack of part of the the secondary hull, which looks as if has been cut away.

Obviously it will only have normal warp engines as Transwarp doesn't work, though it will have better phaser and shield power as these ships are geared more towards offensive/defensive work as opposed to exploration (even though it can be used as such).

e) The Enterprise-C.

An Alaskan class starship, which features in the excellent 3rd season TNG episode Yesterday's Enterprise.

I admit to not having been able to see this particular episode yet, so I can't say much about her. However, from what I can gather from drawings, pictures and clips, she looks like the Excelsior class Enterprise with a "complete" secondary hull. (She gets a brownie point for that)! Externally she is a beautiful ship, and not bad on the inside either. This makes her more pleasant to look at than the Excelsior class Enterprise.

This ship is geared towards offensive/defensive use, and is armed "to the teeth" with phaser banks - 25 in all! - and photon torpedoes.

f) The Enterprise-D.

The latest starship to bear the name Enterprise, Enterprise-D is a Galaxy class starship, and can be seen in all the TNG episodes.

When I first saw the Galaxy class Enterprise, the first thought that came to mind was "*What is that?*". Most Trekkers/Trekkies I have come across would generally agree that this Enterprise is not what we had hoped for. She has been described by many like "a duck doing a belly flop". At some angles, she doesn't look bad at all, but generally... nah! However, she is a very 90s starship in that she is very streamlined.

I think that Enterprise-D is a great ship. Internally she is similar to a glorified version of the original series Enterprise. The three main seats on the bridge are cushy, leather-like armchairs, but who designed the bridge? The Captain's chair can't turn around! In effect your back is to the crew above you, and you have to get up to talk to them. Also, it's a wonder that half the bridge crew can stand up for so long as there are no seats on the top half of the bridge! There is wall-to-wall leather-like carpeting and smooth touch sensitive control panels/screens. I would guess the bridge is approximately twice the size of the original Enterprise's bridge. Around the ship, there is more of the same, but eternally - well, that's another story.

Other factors to take into consideration is that this is the most powerful Enterprise by far. Like other Enterprises before her, she has the latest technology on board - this includes new phaser technology and multi-layer shielding. Also included is the new ultra-warp capabilities. This means she can travel at almost 100,000 times the speed of light.

The main problem with Enterprise-D is that there is no love for the ship like Kirk's Enterprises. The personal touch that he gave is gone with Picard's Enterprise. It is more "mechanical" with him. Enterprise-D is too OTT in terms of luxury. The starship feel has been turned to a cruise liner which is being used for exploration purposes. I have to agree with the line from the forthcoming episode The Neutral Zone where Picard said something like "He's comparing the Enterprise with a cruise ship?", because that is what this Enterprise is in my mind.

If I was told to make a 20th century comparison of this Enterprise, I would feel comfortable saying that she can be described as the QE2 armed with 9mm cannons and Exocet missiles!

To summarize, it is down to personal preference and what era you like most. From what people have told me already and from other sources of feedback so far, it can depend on the era which got you "fascinated" with Star Trek. Myself, I prefer Enterprise-A. What about you?

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS

A few thoughts by Pat de Voss

Beta Niobe was about to go nova and destroy Sarpeidon. Now, suppose that is about 5 billion people. We all know that they escaped into their own past, the Atavachron having changed them to suit the time they chose. But it did not alter their memories, and The Prosecutor still had his memory of the 'future'.

My point is this; that 5 billion people starting from point Z and going backwards to - say - point A scattering along the way, had to have done some damage to Sarpeidon's history line. For no damage to be done they would have had to be in total isolation and none could ever have any children. What would happen to children born into times where they never should have been? What happened if a 'future' person married an ancestor? The first generation would be careful not to do this, but a few down the line wouldn't. Anyway, as time keeps moving on we again come up to nova time... but this time there are 15 billion who have to escape!

If the circle keeps ongoing, will the past be populated more by the 'future' people and less by the original ancestors? Will the 'future' people continue to accept the primitive ways or start the tech. push sooner? Will the whole thing end up in a war in one of the time zones that will wipe out everything? Because they would not just be killing a primitive enemy, they would be killing their own roots. By the time the Enterprise gets there, they might find nothing but the ruins of a long-dead race'

KLINGON FIGHT

by Mel Claessens

Although relatively little has been known about Klingon tactics, the Federation has always taken delight in calling the Klingon way of fighting an unfair one, and pours forth abuse as soon as the Klingons are involved in this or that battle. Klingons are generally regarded as cruel, merciless and underhand fighters. You may be tempted to ask now, it can't really be so bad, but - is it true?

The truth is, first - compared to most Humans, the Klingons are indeed cruel. Every race has its own morals - even Klingons, although they are often said to have none. (Consider the morals of the Gorn or the Kinshaya.) Hence, what might seem cruel to Humans might be totally normal for Klingons. This is also expressed in many traditional rituals, e.g. the Rite of Ascension. I talked about that some issues ago.

True, Klingons are merciless. How else could they survive in a system where every struggle, every trifling insult is avenged, more than often by killing the opponent! The rule is: If I don't kill my enemy now, he will kill me at the next opportunity - in revenge for having been spared (instead of having been granted the honour of dying well).

It is also true that Klingons are ambivalent and underhand, especially in a fight. They try to deceive their opponent, they try to build a trap wherever possible and to make the best of their situation, regardless of whether they attack from the front or from behind. Now that is what every normal Human would call tactics, isn't it? In military history, it has always been part of tactics to send a vanguard to the front and attack from behind once the enemy was distracted.

Compared to the United Federation of Planets, the Klingon Empire is small. Although an alliance between the two has been forged, the Klingons will surely go on fighting their own way. It is not part of the Klingon mind to submit, and an alliance is, to the Klingon mind, tantamount to a submission. The Klingons may take the Federation for granted as an ally, they may even support them, but they won't change.

The Enemy (TNG) is a fine example of that way of thinking. Worf is the only one who can save a Romulan from dying by donating some of his own blood. He refuses, and at the end of the episode the Romulan actually dies. Many people regard Worf's behaviour as inhumane (or, better, in-Human), and so it is. It is Klingon. Had he saved the Romulan, Worf might well have been killed by him in another situation. In any case, he would have lost face.

Even if this appeared totally illogical to the average Federation mind, a Klingon would always act like Worf. Mercy is a weakness, and weakness something only the strongest can afford. Klingons are not the strongest.

(QeyHa' SutaI-q'tImaamva', Klingon Language Counsellor on Earth, c/o Mel Claessens, Baseler Str. 51, D - 1000 Berlin 45, Germany, Terra)

THE SHERLOCK HOLMES CONNECTION

by Michael Simpson

What a pity that the injunction against Paramount has prevented The Next Generation from further forays into the world of Conan Doyle's 'great detective'. It has always seemed to me somehow fitting that the two popular institutions should become intertwined. Prior to TNG quite a number of fans of both, (and there appear to be quite a few), had been putting forward the comparisons between Spock and Holmes, not knowing that with the advent of the 'new' series any contrived connection there may have been previously would be substantiated by something quite deliberate. It is in a sense ironic, though, that it should be Spock's successor who has been accorded the task of forging that greater link, not least because he possibly has fewer similarities to the character than the scientist who preceded him.

Spock's most obvious similarity is his rejection of emotion in favour of logic. *'Abhorrent to his cold, precise, but admirably balanced mind'* was how Holmes apparently regarded emotions, (love particularly), and Spock might try to have us believe that there would be no better description of himself. But, just as Conan Doyle would later reveal of his creation, there are hidden depths to Spock's character that only those unfamiliar with Star Trek lore fail to appreciate.

'It was worth a wound - it was worth many wounds - to know the depth of loyalty and love which lay behind that cold mask.'

The words are Watson's from the short story The Three Garridebs. But they might just as easily be James T. Kirk's following the events of Amok Time, or McCoy's upon reflecting on his exchange with Spock in the Roman cell in Bread and Circuses.

Where Spock's character compares and his successor, Data's, contrasts is in the appreciation of those emotions. Though literally a 'well oiled machine', the experiencing of emotion would not be regarded as 'grit' in his works by the Enterprise's newest Science Officer, persistent as he is in his attempts to discover for sure if there are any 'depths' behind his 'cold mask'. Sherlock Holmes surely will not help him to find them.

It is Data, though, who probably epitomises how Holmes would have wanted himself to be seen. Indeed, if there is one thing that perhaps makes Data's emulation most appropriate, it is that, had he had the chance to meet him, Holmes would probably have found Data the ultimate role model upon which to fashion himself. Supposedly totally unhindered by emotion, Data's logical, ordered mind and unswerving concentration would perhaps have represented the ultimate level of professional competence to which Holmes could have ascended.

Where Data's fascination for the character appears to lie is in Holmes' methods, which match his own so completely, dominated as they are by facts and logical thinking. Though he was never seen to express any such 'fascination' in this matter, it is a Holmes characteristic of which Spock, too, would surely approve. Unlike Data, who could find no encouragement in the persona of Holmes for his ambition to experience and appreciate the many and varied consequences of a Human psyche, a half-Human half-Vulcan, seeking guidance in times of personal doubt, might see a Human's commitment to emotional deprivation in the cause of his fellow man, and a Human universally admired for that, as a fine, if not wholly honest, example to hold up to those who seek to convince him that this is no way to live. So, though the two Starfleet officers' reasons for such appreciation may differ, it is the most obvious Holmesian trait they do both share.

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Leonard Nimoy himself confirmed Spock's comparison with the character when he

played Holmes on the Chicago stage in an adaptation of the William Gillette play Sherlock Holmes.

John Colicos, (Kor from Errand Of Mercy), also tried a hand at the role when the same play was produced in Miami.

The Seven Per-Cent Solution was written, directed and novelised by Nicholas Meyer.

William Shatner played the villain Stapleton in an American TV-film version of Hound Of The Baskervilles, made in 1972 by Universal/ABC as the pilot for a series that was never made.

Ian Wolfe, (Septimus in Bread and Circuses and Mr. Atoz in All Our Yesterdays), appeared in the Basil Rathbone/Nigel Bruce features Pearl Of Death, and The Scarlet Claw in 1944. (He will be 95 this year if he is still with us!)

Marina Sirtis was in the Jeremy Brett version of The Six Napoleons.

Rosalyn Landor (Up The Long Ladder) was in another Granada adaptation - The Speckled Band.

(Additions to this list would be gratefully appreciated)

A SEA OF FACES

by Michael Simpson

What, a Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea feature in a Trek newsletter? Surely not? Well, not exactly. But, as any SF TV enthusiast cannot have failed to notice, Irwin Allen's popular undersea adventure series is now enjoying a rerun on Sunday afternoons on Channel 4. And whilst even its main stars may be inclined to comment that it was not an actor's show, it is principally with actors who made often all-too-brief appearances in the show that this article is concerned. For among their number there was a large contingent of familiar faces whose careers as supports and 'guests' would later take them from the depths of the world's oceans to worlds beyond the Milky Way at the behest of the 'Great Bird Of The Galaxy'.

EARLY ASSIGNMENTS

Though many of them were to appear in a number of other genre TV offerings during the 50s and 60s, Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea was perhaps a fitting forerunner to encounters with the Enterprise crew for the actors who made contributions to both series. Irwin Allen's show began transmission in 1964, two years before Trek, and lasted for four seasons. In story content it was nothing if not varied. Like Trek its subject matter could range from mad scientists to political power struggles to monsters-on-the-loose all within the space of a few weeks. Indeed, (and assuming the schedule runs from now on according to the one I have before me), the episode due for broadcast next after you read this concerns a super computer running the whole submarine with only one man needed on board. And remember, this was before Trek even began airing! Other similarities the show bore to Gene's include its militaristic background and regular ensemble cast. What's more, unlike Allen's other most popular offerings Lost In Space and Land Of The Giants, the cast contained no children.

All of these things considered it would perhaps be reasonable to suggest that the series helped lay some of the ground for its even more ambitious successor. It surely proved, if nothing else, that serious fantasy, designed to appeal as much to adults as to kids, *could* succeed, thanks in no small way to the rigid militaristic scenario it based itself around. This takes nothing away from Gene's creation. At the very least Gene knew where to improve on those that had gone before whilst not

forgetting what it was that made them so popular.

THE LIST

Below then is a list that covers only the first of Voyage To The Bottom Of The Sea's four seasons. Inevitably some of those on the list will be more difficult to spot than others, but for the amusement of fans who may enjoy the challenge I have included only the name of the character they played in Trek, (as well as the episode/s). It is very likely that there may be others who were not listed in my sources. James Doohan, for example, was not recorded as appearing in the episode Hot Line, and others I found only through looking at the end credits of the shows themselves. Needless to say about half of the season will have been shown by the time this list is published, but it may be of use either to those who have recorded the show or purely as a reference piece. Whatever, happy hunting!

Episodes are listed in original transmission order.

ELEVEN DAYS TO ZERO

Jim Goodwin.....Lt. John Farrell - Mudd's Women
- The Enemy Within
- Miri

Theodore Marcuse.....Korob - Catspaw

Maurice Zuberano.....Production Illustrator - ST-TMP

THE CITY BENEATH THE SEA

Peter Brocco.....Claymare - Errand Of Mercy

THE FEAR MAKERS

Alexander Courage.....Composer

William Sargent.....Dr. Thomas Leighton - Conscience Of The King

THE PRICE OF DOOM

Alexander Courage.....Composer

Harlan Ellison.....Writer

James Goldstone.....Director - Where No Man Has Gone Before

Steve Ihnat.....Garth - Whom Gods Destroy

Jill Ireland.....Leila Kalomi - This Side Of Paradise

David Opatoshu.....Anan 7 - Taste Of Armageddon

TURN BACK THE CLOCK

Yvonne Craig.....Marta - Whom Gods Destroy

THE VILLAGE OF GUILT

Jim Goodwin.....(See ELEVEN DAYS TO ZERO)

Eric Holland.....Ekor - Wink Of An Eye

HOT LINE

Michael Ansara.....Kang - Day Of The Dove

Paul Carr.....Kelso - Where No Man Has Gone Before

James Doohan.....Enough said!

SUBMARINE SUNK HERE

Paul Comi.....Lt. Andrew Stiles - Balance Of Terror

* THE MAGNUS BEAM

Malachi Throne.....Commodore Jose Mendez - The Menagerie

NO WAY OUT

Richard Webb.....Lt. Commander Benjamin Finney - Court Martial

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

James Doohan.....?

John Hoyt.....Philip Boyce M.D. - The Cage/Menagerie

Nancy Kovack.....Nona - A Private Little War

THE LAST BATTLE
Rudy Solari.....Salish - The Paradise Syndrome

MUTINY
James Goldstone.....Director - Where No Man Has Gone Before

DOOMSDAY
James Goldstone.....As above

THE BUCCANEER
Barry Atwater.....Surak - The Savage Curtain

THE HUMAN COMPUTER
James Goldstone.....Director - Where No Man Has Gone Before

THE SABOTEUR
Warren Stevens.....Rojan - By Any Other Name

THE AMPHIBIANS
Skip Homier.....Melakon - Patterns Of Force
Dr.Sevrin - The Way To Eden

THE EXILE
James Goldstone.....Director - Where No Man Has Gone Before
Jason Wingreen.....Dr.Linke - The Empath

THE ENEMIES
Malachi Throne.....Commodore Jose Mendez - The Menagerie

SECRET OF THE LOCH
Torin Thatcher.....Marplon - Return Of The Archons

* Not shown at time of writing.

Sources: Epilog Issue 2, Who's Who in Star Trek (Star Books).

TO FIND THE MIND'S CONSTRUCTION *

by Pan Baddeley

What is a positronic brain? We can say what it is *not*: nothing like the microchip based technology of today and, apart from name, not remotely bound by Asimov's Three Laws. However, we can say from observation of Data that it allows its possessor, from an initial input of knowledge and understanding of concepts provided by Human beings, to learn and adapt in a way similar to adult Humans. Thus Data measures and catalogues new experiences and stimuli by reference to the framework provided by his initial database, able to judge the world in terms of the possibility or probability of things occurring. I would like to speculate, on the basis of an interesting article I came across recently, that the ST:TNG version of the positronic brain has a Human-like capacity to learn and assimilate because it is modelled on the Human brain.

In the 1940s the discovery was made that the physiology of the brain paralleled the operation of the electronic computer. In the brain, tiny cells called neurons operate on a binary principle (just as an electronic computer operates), either firing ('on' in computer terms) or not firing ('off'). When on, a neuron fires a signal to other neurons across a network of synapses. Donald Hebb postulated that memory in the Human/animal brain results when two neurons fire

together; this modifies their synaptic connection (current thought is that it thus renders it more efficient) and establishes precedence over any connections made by other neuron pairs which are *not* simultaneously active. Pattern recognition - integral to Human intelligence - is based upon the precedence of these modified connections between various pairs of simultaneously active neurons. The Human brain contains 100 billion neurons, each connected to 10000 others by a synapse. Even today, to build a computer on this pattern is well beyond our technology.

Thus the concept of a neural network, as the idea came to be known, involves artificial neurons, each connected to at least one other neuron in a way similar to a synapse connection. Learning is based on evaluating changes in information entered; in supervised learning, ideal responses are introduced, against which the computer evaluates all subsequent inputs, recording any discrepancy. The machine then 'guesses' how different or similar the new data is to the original pattern. Such systems are used for handwriting and speech recognition. Unsupervised learning systems are used where the outcome is not known in advance; for example, the analysis of financial markets. This involves gauging the similarities and dissimilarities between various stored inputs, comparisons being relative rather than measured against ideal results. The system cannot derive meaning from the information; values must be placed on it by Humans.

It seems that Data's 'neural network' is of Human or more than Human complexity and that he underwent a period of supervised learning till he developed the ability to assign his own meanings to 'inputs' based on the knowledge originally stored, just as Human beings do.

Little research was conducted into neural networks between 1969 and 1985 due to lack of funding. This, some people claim, was due to a book by two proponents of expert systems, Minsky and Pappert, who attacked the concept as a waste of money. Instead, funding was directed toward expert systems. (For anyone who's interested, expert systems work by using tables of rules which they consult to evaluate information; they are used as diagnostic aids in fields such as medicine or finance as guides to point the user in the right direction.) At any rate, existing neural network models drastically over-simplify the operation of the brain and can only perform simply pattern recognition tasks. We have a long way to go before adequately creating the 'hardware' of the brain, let alone the 'software'.

Nevertheless, I do not have a problem in accepting the possibility of our being able to achieve this by the twenty-fourth century. My difficulty lies in the way in which ST:TNG portrays this achievement. The idea of the 'lone genius' is a hangover from the 19th century; present day discoveries involve whole *teams* of people to do the donkey work even if one or two are actually credited with the discovery. I don't see why this should change in the future.

I know that research today is far too dependent on military applications or the profit motive (the corporation providing the funds owns the patent and collects the profit resulting from development and sale of the discovery) so that it is difficult to obtain funds for 'pure' research, but I hope this would have changed in the future which ST:TNG portrays. That being so, it is hard to accept that (again, I hope) well funded independent scientific foundations would be too prejudiced to fund Soong's research. Frankly, such discoveries do not come cheap; unless we are to believe that Soong just happens to be fabulously rich, I do not see where he would obtain the money. With these reservations in mind, the idea of someone like the eccentric genius from the Back to the Future films beavering away in the basement is, for me, the real element of fantasy relating to Data's existence, not Data himself.

* Acknowledgements to PC Week.

AN EXTRACT FROM IDIC'S PERSONNEL FILE

G'day. I'm Patricia De Voss. I'm your average Aussie lady. I work as a cleaner in a Nursing Home, still live with my parents, love to garden and have five goldfish and three parrots. Perfectly normal??? Apart from the fact that every now and then I get this strange desire to dress up in Starfleet uniform and discuss warp drive physics with something that looks like a pig.

I've always been interested in Science Fiction but not till I watched the first episode of Star Trek did I really get hooked. Over the years I have joined many clubs, made so many great friends and run out many a biro and printer ribbon writing to pen-pals. Not to mention the over forty stories that I've written, some general science fiction but mostly Star Trek. My best friend Leith and I have used gallons of petrol running down to Brisbane for various club functions and the odd convention. I've also been to a few in Sydney but because of distance (it takes 18 hours by train) and lack of money have not been there for a few years.

My favourite writer is Isaac Asimov. My favourite characters are Kirk, Chekov, Data and Riker. Of course I love all the others too, but if I were ever to be stranded on a desert island it would have to be with one of the above. I have all the uniforms, and autographed photos from the entire cast of both shows.

I am told I have a weird sense of humour, but after reading all of Douglas Adams' books and finding them perfectly normal, I suppose people are right. And if you're wondering how old I am, I'm in my twentyish, which could mean any age between 1 and 40. After that I don't count any more. If my friend can lie, so can I. Hope that some day I will get to meet some IDIC members.

P.S. - any IDIC member who gets a chance to holiday in Australia, my phone number is 076 (STD code) 325321. Give me a call and see what we can arrange.

MY KIND OF TREK

by Lynne Baxter

I cannot remember a time when I have not been a Trekker. In the 70s my parents tolerated me and my best friend, Margy, taking over the family room whenever the USS Enterprise boldly went out, and in the 80s my landlady let me use her parlour so I could see the show in colour. As I moved from college to vacation work then to full time employment my suitcase always contained a tatty copy of Blsh (then two, then all twelve). I found Bantam and Pocket Book novels in second hand bookshops and read them indiscriminately. On a casual visit to W H Smith I discovered the CIC videos and, blushing furiously, I bought my favourite episode - Amok Time. It was as good as I remembered, as good as when me and Margy acted it out using the fotonovel as a script. The memories were rekindled and so my collection grew.

I am a supporter of classic Trek. My favourite characters are Kirk, Spock and McCoy, and I prefer stories that combine these characters in well-scripted interplay. Among my favourite episodes are Naked Time and the excellent City on the Edge of Forever. These episodes stretch the actors' abilities to their limits and allow Spock, McCoy and Kirk emotional outbursts tempered with fine moments of comedy (how many other actors can express so much with just a raised eyebrow?)

I have always enjoyed the novels of Barbara Hambly so Ishmael and Ghost-Walker are two of my favourite ST books. The characters are convincing and the plots so completely enthralling it is tempting to read the books at one sitting, just to get to the end (so to take away that temptation let me tell you that in the first book Jim saves Spock, with a bit of help from McCoy, and in the second it is Spock who

eventually saves Jim - with the help of McCoy).

I also recommend Wounded Sky by the excellent Diane Duane. She draws pictures with words, I hope she writes more about K't'lk the Hamalki and her mathematics. Yesterday's Son (and Time for Yesterday) get top marks from me because Spock reacts exactly as expected to the news of his son, so you get to suffer and rejoice with him.

I am new to zines; I have only read two. IDIC Log 2 is an adventure story with nice illustrations but it's not my idea of ST. As New Wine is one of the best stories I have ever read. Valerie Piacentini gives a very good review in IDIC 10. Briefly, it tells of the beginning of the Spock/Kirk friendship and how important it is to them. The dialogue is vivid and moving - highly recommended.

I have been watching ST:TNG on BBC2 since it started. I have found it disappointing, super special effects but no interaction between the characters. I am told it gets better but my video shop does not have second or third series episodes. I look forward to my first con in May, where I shall attempt to catch up with the crew - Tasha dead and Crusher replaced I hear. If anyone is looking for me I'll be in the video room with William T. Riker!

MY KIND OF TREK

by Keren Breen

I can't claim to have watched Star Trek from the very beginning. To tell the truth, I was cross because the BBC had put it on in place of Dr. Who, and I wasn't going to watch any American rubbish! I was expecting something like Lost in Space, which had its moments but got very silly from time to time. My brother told me I should watch Star Trek, because it was good. I can't remember which episode I saw first, I think it was The Naked Time. For once, my brother was right, and I was hooked.

Of the original series, I tend to most enjoy the episodes with an element of humour. The all-time favourite is The Trouble with Tribbles - who could forget the sight of Jim Kirk waist-deep in tribbles (and I've often wondered who had to make them all!) Shore Leave rates highly, too, as does Assignment Earth (I had a cat called Isis, too - I hadn't remembered the name of Gary 7's cat when I named my moggy!) Least favourites are The Omega Glory and The Alternative factor.

I am really enjoying TNG. So far, since attending cons is not possible for me, I am limited to the episodes available on video; fortunately, I live near a rental shop that has all those released to date. One thing I do like about TNG is that we get to see more of the 'lower ranks' on the bridge. We knew very little of the background of Sulu, Chapel, Chekov and Uhura (although, paradoxically, this leaves more scope for their development in the novels) whereas we do have glimpses of the histories of Riker, Yar, Troi, Data etc. Oh, and I find that *I like Wesley!!!* At first, I thought he might best be put to use as reaction mass in the warp engines, or as le-matya food, but the kid is growing on me. Wil Wheaton does a great job of playing him; Wesley could so easily come across as a pain in the afterburners!

However, I don't enjoy the TNG novels half as much as the Original Trek novels. With the possible exception of Metamorphosis and Survivors, I find TNG novels much of a muchness. My favourite novels are Uhura's Song, The Pandora Principle and The Romulan Way. All right, so they aren't 'official' Trek, but I enjoy the way the authors attempt to add more depth to the characters, particularly Sulu, Chekov, Uhura and so on. The UK edition of the Marvel TNG 'comic' is enjoyable, too; judging by the letters page, it's read mainly by adults, not children; one day the BBC will get the message!

Of the films, my favourite is The Wrath of Khan, followed by The Voyage Home. I enjoyed The Final Frontier more than I thought I would; I didn't get to see it until it was released on video and by then I'd heard everyone else's reaction. I wasn't expecting too much, and I was pleasantly surprised!

MY KIND OF TREK

by Richard Fuller

Star Trek was as much a part of my childhood in the 70s as going to school (the latter being less enjoyable). I was dazzled by the special effects and such sayings as "Beam me up, Scotty" or "Warp factor six, Sulu."

To me, original Trek will always be tops. It's unique, but there is a future legacy with The Next Generation. Star Trek has much more depth to me than a space soap opera. The strength of the messages and issues it tackled has always stuck with me; in particular Is There In Truth No Beauty, which gave us IDIC, is such a powerful, beneficial message.

My favourite character is Scotty. As a Scot myself I feel proud that Gene Roddenberry saw us as a fit and significant race to include in Star Trek. I also think that James Doohan gave a lot of depth to the character. I also like Uhura and Sulu. I'm not such a fan of the 'Big Three' - those type of stories don't work for me.

My favourite episodes are Is There In Truth No Beauty, Wolf in the Fold, The Tholian Web, The Lights of Zetar, That Which Survives, Day of the Dove, The Trouble With Tribbles and Space Seed - to name a few.

To me these have the blend of a classic Star Trek episode, with everyone getting to show their skills both at acting and as their on-screen alter egos. I'll always treasure Trek, old and new.

MY KIND OF TREK

by Marcia Pecor

I watched Star Trek in 1966, when it first came on the air. I couldn't watch it as frequently as I would like, as we had one black and white television and my parents were the ones who decided what programs we would watch. However, I do recall thinking McCoy was absolutely "fab" (I was a Beatles fan) and that Spock had the most gorgeous dark eyes. I didn't care too much for Kirk then. Then the show was cancelled, I was growing up, and other things took Star Trek's place - or so I thought.

I was intrigued when the movies came out, wondering what would have caused such an unusual phenomenon - resurrecting a group of characters who had been dead for over ten years (honest, everybody, I had never known of the existence of fandom, or what they had accomplished over those years). Then, when I discovered Star Trek novels in the bookstore - well, that was the beginning of everything all over again. I found Star Trek reruns on a Washington station about this time and began to rediscover those episodes I'd seen so long ago, and discover those I'd never seen before. One thing led to another, and I discovered zines, clubs, newsletters, pen friends etc. I feel like I've lived more in the last three years (I "woke up" in the fall of '87) than any other time. I've learned about diversity in the face of human nature, about hope in spite of world events, and about friendship. I also learned that James T. Kirk was absolutely number one with me,

and that the friendship he shared with McCoy and Spock was of greatest importance.

I purchase all the novels I can get my hands on but, like Janet, there are only a few which I prefer. Vulcan Academy Murders is high on my list, as well as Killing Time and the Entropy Effect. Fan fiction is the superior media for relationships, character development, hurt/comfort - really anything a fan could want (I don't care, however, for K/S nor particularly graphic sexual liaisons). I'm still breaking into zines, both for reading enjoyment and publishing, so I don't feel I'm qualified to recommend but two zines I've come to enjoy and know will be quality material: Edge of Forever (Bookman and Miller, New York City) and Log Entries (Scotpress, Sheila Clark). I've read Mind Meld and Galactic Discourse, but they aren't publishing right now.

I have enjoyed the ST films and hope to enjoy STVI more than any of the others. Sometimes I feel that the films were like Cinderella's first ball dress - you know, the one the sisters tore up before she got a chance to wear it - with the fans on one side and the movie critics on the other, I'm not sure we really saw what was there. When I compare the special FX of TNG with those of the original series, I have to remind myself that they made do with what they had back in the 60's - hence "bouffant hairdos and chiffon robes" remarks really get my goat. Why can't we sit back and watch them and value them (original series and films) for what they mean to us personally? The heck with what the critics say, or what well-meaning friends suggest. If ya like it, ya like it. I only hope there's a lot to like in STVI. I have a lot of mixed feelings about it, but this is not the time or place to go into that.

MY KIND OF TREK

by Simon Trick

I first saw Star Trek in a Joe 90 Magazine back in 1969/70. I didn't understand it then (I was only 10); I was simply "fascinated" by Spock's eyes and ears. Soon after, I spotted Spock on a TV set in a department store. I determined then to watch it the following week. The first episode I saw was The Man Trap. From that moment on, I was hooked!

I remember, later on, the anger that I felt when the heroes at the BBC decided cuts in the programmes needed to be made. Some episodes were spoilt more than others, and one - Miri - the BBC has not shown since 1970. Now I am collecting the CIC videos. Won-der-ful! No BBC cuts and Miri!!

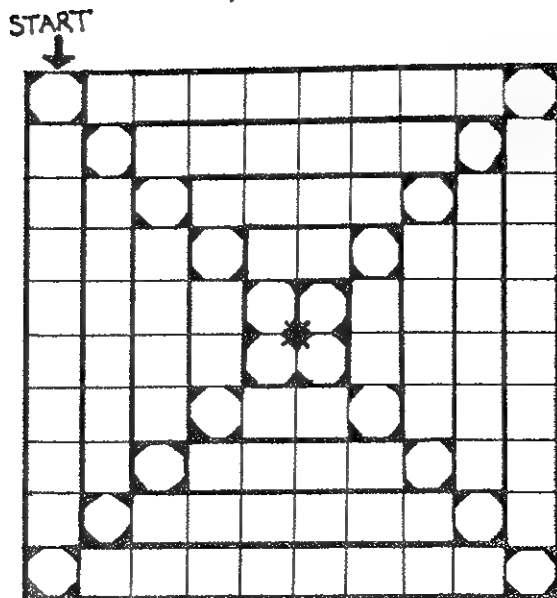
I watch Star Trek with different eyes now. I value not only the "eyebrows and ears" but the performances, the humour, the storylines and the ideals. Star Trek has always given a very positive and optimistic view of the long-term future (not so much the short-term - World War III with 37 million dead*?) of humanity. The unity of humanity is a concept I wholeheartedly share in. I've always thought it was wonderful, the way Star Trek tried to break down barriers of prejudice, not just among Humans but also between other, non-Human races. Ahead of its time? Definitely - in more ways than one.

I don't want to take up more space now. I hope to make more contributions soon. Keep up the good work, IDIC. Live Long and Prosper.

* Mr. Spock in "Bread and Circuses" quoted those figures to Dr. McCoy.

WORMHOLE

by Helen White



DIRECTIONS:

Starting at the square indicated, fill in the answers on the grid, one after the other, going in a spiral. The last letter of each word is also the first letter of the next, eg SPOCKKLINGONATIRA (Spock, Klingon, Natira)

When the grid is completed, you will find the names of four ST characters, reading along the diagonals (marked) towards the centre of the grid. What are they?

CLUES:

- This alien reminded Spock of his father (5)
- Klingon captain from STV (4)
- Ed, Chief Processing Engineer on Janus VI (5)
- Let That Be Your Final Battlefield (4)
- Fur-covered appetite! (7)
- Morgan, Virgil or Wyatt (4)
- Vulcan 'blood-fever' (4,3)
- Lupine animal in the Fold (4)
- Their medical knowledge led to a cure for Bones (7)
- Vulcan philosophy of a certain fan-club! (4)
- Three-dimensional game enjoyed by Kirk and Spock (5)
- Cloud city, and residence of Droixine (7)
- Doctor McCoy's domain (7)
- Excalbian rock-creature (6)
- Leila, who knew Spock before she went to Omicron Ceti III (6)
- Planetary home of Bela Oxmyx and Jojo Krako (5)
- Who Mourns For him? (7)
- Pointy-eared ambassador (5)
- Admiral whose orders Kirk disobeyed in order to take Spock to Vulcan and T'Pring (6)
- Klingon captain from STIII (5)
- A Certain Starship (10)

Solution on page 58.

SOME JOLLY ANAGRAMS TO KEEP YOU AMUSED IN WET WEATHER or DURING A SUPERNOVA

by Helen White

Below, you will find fifteen anagrams (note for our foreign members: an anagram is a word that's all scrambled up) to untangle. Apart from the first, they all contain two words, and there is no mixing of TNG and original words. Clue: most of the answers are names.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Q | 9. THROCURERIS |
| 2. PKMYCOSOCC | 10. VEWARTLESLE |
| 3. URKLIKUS | 11. FROKIRWER |
| 4. ARPIDACOA | 12. TRIPEANALE |
| 5. SOGRITADEHA | 13. AGMAKARN |
| 6. MAKNERADASA | 14. BOTBATHERRIL |
| 7. KURAHUVOECH | 15. GNACKLINNOVLU |
| 8. TELCHPATSCOY | |

Answers on page 58.

JAMES BLISH PAPERBACKS

by Michael Simpson

DAGGER OF THE MIND

In contrast to *Balance Of Terror*, which appears in the same volume, (Star Trek 1), this adaptation contains few variations from the episode on which it was based. Much of the dialogue is more or less identical, though often edited, presumably to progress the story more rapidly.

The most prominent discrepancy is the absence of the mind-meld between Spock and van Gelder. The interesting thing about this is that earlier script drafts did not include it either. According to Allan Asherman's *Compendium* notes on this episode the original intention was to use a hypnotic device. Perhaps this was considered to be either too expensive or too complicated, and the producers conceived of the mind meld as a cheaper, simpler alternative. (Such a device was later used in TNG episode *Lonely Among Us*). Mr. Asherman notes that the original scene was 'lengthy', whilst the mind-meld does not directly affect the events on the planet, where most of the action takes place. Therefore, like the dialogue, James Blish may have trimmed it, (in this case altogether), to avoid too many detractions from the immediate course of the plot. Whilst very effective on the screen he may not have thought it would read so on paper. On the other hand he may have been working from a script that contained neither sequence, though he does include Helen Noel when, up until the final draft, that role was apparently filled by Yeoman Rand.

There are, however, other indications of an early draft as at least part of the source in the description of the neural neutraliser, referred to here as a 'neural potentiator'. In the Blish version the chair is replaced by a 'table', and the light by a 'small, complex device hanging from the ceiling'. 'A narrow, monochromatic beam of light like a laser beam was fixed on the patient's forehead.'

The therapist operating the device is more talkative in the adaptation, and the author uses him to describe in more detail how it operates. He also takes other opportunities to, once again be more scientific than the episodes allowed, referring to McCoy's 'electroencephalograph', (a device which, my dictionary claims, records electrical impulses and changes in the brain. Imagine poor DeForest Kelley trying to explain all that to the cameras!)

There is no force field protection for the planet in James Blish's version, so no indication of the reason for the continuity error at the end of the episode. Dr. van Gelder's sudden recovery is, however, accounted for.

Unfortunately the story seemed to me to lack the disturbing 'feel' of the episode. Perhaps the short story format restricted the writer's opportunities to recreate the atmosphere of certain sequences, including both the mind meld and van Gelder's forced revelations. Nevertheless James Blish succeeds in capturing at least a small degree of the horror of van Gelder's ordeal with a line of his own creation, but again similar to the actual filmed dialogue:-

"He empties us... and then fills us with himself."

SEQUELS

by Steve Davies

After The Naked Now, the brilliant sequel to The Naked Time, what other follow-ons could be made to famous classic Trek and TNG episodes?

Return to the Day After Tomorrow
The Big Hello Again
What Are Little Boys Made Of?
Angel Two
And the Adolescents Shall Lead
11001001 part 2: 11001010
The Space Bud
Charlie Y
Tribbles 2: The Klingons' Revenge
Shore Leave 2: The Morning After
Saturday's Child
The Galileo Six
The Day After Tomorrow is Today
When the Bough Falls Off Completely
Where No Man Has Gone More Than Once Before
Oh No, It's The Archons Once Again!
A Large Bite of Armageddon
A Little War Open to All Comers
Night of the Dove

THE OMICRON CETI POD-U-LIKE M E N U

BREAKFAST

- 1 Quadrotriticale porridge with added kironide for that hi-energy boost you need at the start of the day.
- 2 Enterprise Cornbread, best eaten with pure Farragut honey - just smell that aroma! - or if preferred, with Security Conserve, a flavoursome spread infused with the aftermath of the less successful landing parties. (With permitted additives)
- 3 McCoy's scrambled atoms, sorry, eggs.
- 4 Toast and Marmite, an intriguing blend of Mars Bars and Corbomite.
Or for those days when you're not feeling quite yourself, try Ion Tablets, the

natural Alternative food source.
Please pass the salt.

DINNER

- 1 Tribble Burgers - great value for money - see your meal increase as you try to eat it.
- 2 Chicken Ambassadeur - a great favourite at the Captain's table.
- 3 Omelette Surprise - an eggxilirating multicoloured culinary eggspierience created with landing parties in mind. So you thought those little red bits were peppers? The ideal dish for a Last Supper.
- 4 Slime Devil Rings on Toast a la Lester, garnished with Celebium - guaranteed to make a new man/woman/hermaphrodite of you.
- 5 Mahko Root Goulash - leaves you with a certain after taste.
- 6 Beef Wellington - when you've sampled our enticing range of recycled Security foods, why not try their boots.
- 7 Jellied Ceti Eels.
- 8 Brain Souffle - a dish for the masochist, it gives both pain and delight. Mr. Spock will concur.
- 9 Arcturian Dogbird Steak - delicious! Also, useful for repairing holes in the Ozone Layer and curing Rigellian Kassaba Fever.
- 10 The Unlabelled Thing that has been festering in Klingfilm at the bottom of the freezer forever and is 2,000,001 parsecs past its sell-by date (date adduced from data extrapolated from the computer's memory banks) so we'll assume it's Jim's Real Good Iowa Meat Loaf, half wolf and half lamb.
Mustn't forget the Ryetalin-enriched Tomato Ketchup.
(Isn't it just really amazing how a skilled cook can create so many disnes from just one Security detail) Cannibalism? Maybe, but what the hell, it's just another life-form.
Help yourself from our salad bar - infamous delicacies in indescribable combinations.
Can I trouble you for the salt?

DESSERTS

Choose from our selection of Denevan Jellies - they really do stick to the ribs.
Or try a little something from the sweet trolley.
- Horta rock cakes, soaked in lashings of luscious stokaline
- Space Seed cake - gives you a power surge just when you need it
- Triacus Angel Cake
- The Original Amazingly Fruity Nutcake
- Captain's Chocolate Log
- Crumpet - another of the Captain's particular favourites
- Pikelets - not much call for them these days

OR

Rigellian Cheddar served with Captain Tracy Water Biscuits, made specially for the USS Exeter but delivered late

Can I trouble you for the salt?

BEVERAGES

- 1 The Milk Shake of your choice - may we recommend the speciality of the house, the Froth of Khan
- 2 Scalos mineral water - puts a spring in your step
- 3 Coffee served in genuine period plastic cups. It's a 100:3.557 chance that the coffee may be real, should random factors operate in your favour.
- 4 Jim Beam Whisky
- 5 Stellar Artois lagers
- 6 Newcastle Exhibition, specially imported for those North Britishers who are seekers of the Blue Star

- 7 100% proof Chlortheragen Derivative - should only be drunk by people wanting the nerve inputs into their brain deadened
 8 Saline solution - for those desperate to keep up appearances

May we respectfully point out that over-consumption of such beverages, however conventional their composition, may affect your anti-gravity elevation and result in the occipital region of your head impacting with your immediate environment

An Alien Life-Form menu is available on request.

IF SOMEONE DOESN'T BRING SOME SALT RIGHT NOW YOU'RE ALL GOING TO BE REALLY SORRY

Here's Mudd in your Eye

Chris Blenkarn

WORMHOLE ANSWERS

Balok, Klaa, Appel, Last, Tribble, Earp, Plak Tow, Wolf, Fabrini, IDIC, chess, Stratos, Sickbay, Yarnek, Kalomi, Iotia, Adonais, Sarek, Komack, Kruge, Enterprise

The four names are (running clockwise from the start square):
 Bilar, Tyree, Bones, Petri.

ANAGRAM ANSWERS

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Q (I thought I'd start with a difficult one!) | |
| 2. SPOCK, McCOY | 9. CHRUSHER, TROI |
| 3. KIRK, SULU | 10. TRAVELLER, WES |
| 4. PICARD, DATA | 11. RIKER, WOLF |
| 5. GEORDI, TASHA | 12. ELAAN, PETRI |
| 6. SAREK, AMANDA | 13. KANG, MARA |
| 7. CHEKOV, UHURA | 14. TRIBBLE, HORTA |
| 8. SCOTTY, CHAPEL | 15. KLINGON, VULCAN |

CLASSIC STAR TREK REVIEW

ELAAN OF TROYIUS (57) Written and Directed by John Meredyth Lucas.
 Reviewed by Edward Woo

France Nuyen was the guest star of this episode. She is better known as Dr. Kim in the series St. Elsewhere. This episode concerns the political marriage of two planetary systems to bring about a peace. The Enterprise is transporting Elaan of Elas and an Ambassador from Troyius, her new home; he is attempting to teach her some of the manners of his planet. She causes all types of disruption on board, disliking her quarters, donated by Lt. Uhura, and only allowing people to speak to her when given permission. However, one thing that causes Elasian women to be loved is biochemistry. Once her tears touch his flesh, a man falls deeply in love with her. Captain Kirk unwittingly touches her tear-wet face, and McCoy has to try desperately to find an antidote.

Meanwhile, Kryton, one of Elaan's guards, sabotages the dilithium crystals. Scotty's attempts to correct the problem fuses the dilithium crystals, which makes them useless, meaning no warp power or enough power to the shields. A Klingon battle cruiser is in pursuit and attacks the Enterprise, knowing she has little power.

power.

Elaan wants to be beside Kirk at their destruction and arrives on the bridge wearing a necklace of what she calls 'common stones'. Spock realises that these are dilithium crystals; the reason why the Klingons are here. Scotty rigs these crystals to provide sufficient power to damage the Klingon vessel. Arriving at Troyius, Kirk finds that he has lost his love for Elaan, as the Enterprise is his first love.

An action-packed episode and a well-written storyline. The Enterprise was using her impulse engines travelling to Troyius, luckily for Kryton, for if the Enterprise had been using her warp engines, his tampering might well have been detected much earlier.

I didn't like the way Dr. McCoy, at the end of the episode, says he had isolated some of the properties of the Elasian tears in his search for an antidote. As the Ambassador said, Elasian scientists had, for years, been trying with no success to find an antidote.

France Nuyen played her part well, as did Kryton (whose name reminded me of the second series of Buck Rogers, which had a robot of the same name).

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION EPISODE REVIEWS

LONELY AMONG US Episode No. 7 Prod No. 108 Teleplay by D.C. Fontana, Story by Michael Halperin. Synopsis by Sheila Clark.
US Satellite Uplink Date 31/10/87. BBC 2 screening 24/10/90.

The Enterprise has the job of transporting the delegates of two antagonistic races to a meeting. While still headed for the meeting place, the ship passes through a mysterious cloud; one of the crew dies, and Worf and Crusher are affected by *something*, while the ship malfunctions and then repairs itself without explanation.

In fact, they have picked up a creature from the cloud - a creature that is desperate to get back home. It has been entering the bodies of various members of the crew in an attempt to find someone it can influence into taking it back. Finally it enters Picard, who orders the ship back to the cloud... and then, when they reach it, beams away. Once it reaches home, however, the creature abandons him; but it proves possible to beam him back using his pre-possession pattern. He returns to the ship with no memory of having beamed away.

The two groups of delegates, meanwhile, have started to fight, and one member of one group has disappeared. Picard decides that rank has its privileges and leaves Riker to deal with the problem.

Comments:

Ann Peters: I didn't like this episode at all when I first saw it, but it has grown on me. It seemed to be full of loose ends that were never quite tied up.

Sherlock Holmes was a nice idea that suddenly stopped; the proposed mutiny built up and went nowhere; the battle between the Anticans and the Selay was never resolved; and the transporter solution seemed to be a cop-out. All very unsatisfactory.

The main problem was that I didn't appreciate that the main story was the energy entity getting trapped and trying to get home again by taking over Picard. The warring passengers seemed much more important than they really were, perhaps because the teaser concentrated too much on their arrival.

But now that I view the episode knowing the outcome, I am less bothered by loose ends and get a better perspective. I enjoy Data's fixation with Holmes and the crew's reactions to it. I enjoy the delegates' plots and counter plots and Picard's leaving Riker to sort things out. Incidentally, would the loop the Selay caught Riker in really have fitted over an Antican's head? I have seen this episode likened to Journey to Babel, but I don't remember the delegates eating each other like that.

I am also less bothered by the easy solution now that I am no longer expecting a better one. I must say it was nice to see Data actually taking control for a change when leading Riker and Troi to the transporter room to rescue Picard.

However, I am beginning to have problems about exactly what can and what cannot be done by these transporter/holodeck contraptions. If Picard's pattern was stored so precisely, including his memories up to a particular point, then what's to stop them creating two or three Captains (in case they lose one of them again)? I suppose that's the problem when exploring a technology that doesn't really exist.

I was a bit bothered by Troi picking up the information that the entity and Picard were incompatible rather than just feelings. I didn't think she could do that.

There were some nice one line comments on our society. One about not exploiting animals for food any more and another about how incredible it was that people used to go to war about economic systems.

And Beverly surely echoed the thoughts of many of us when she said to Wesley, "You've got to let the commissioned officers do some of the work."

Edward Woo: Lonely Among Us seems like an alien entity taking over the human forms and creating havoc. However is is much more involved than first read as it can jump from person to person or even to a computer.

Apart from the main story, the sub-stories are far more interesting. The two hostile delegations playing hide and seek aboard the Enterprise is great with Riker and Yar trying to sort it out. Data assuming the role of Sherlock Holmes is even better with the smoking pipe, magnifying glass and the essential dialogue. For example "Something's a foot". The final line where Picard has just returned, hearing the news that one of the delegates may have been eaten, decides to leave it to Riker. Riker looks quite shocked.

I like this episode because of the secondary storylines.

JUSTICE Episode No. 8 Prod No. 109 Teleplay by Worley Thorne,
Story by Ralph Wills and Worley Thorne. Synopsis by Sheila Clark.
US Satellite Uplink Date 7/11/87. BBC 2 screening 28/11/90.

The Enterprise has just seeded a colony, and found a nearby planet inhabited by a simple, peaceful people, the Edo. It seems the ideal place for shore leave, and a small party beams down, including Wesley Crusher, to report on what the place is like for youngsters.

They are greeted enthusiastically by the natives; Wesley goes off with some local youngsters, while the adults talk. Yar soon discovers that there is only one punishment on Edo for any crime - even something as minor as "Keep Off The Grass"; death.

Meanwhile, on the Enterprise, Picard discovers that the Enterprise is sharing her orbit with a strange vessel that isn't entirely there. Its occupant(s) call the natives of Edo "My children" and warn(s) Picard not to interfere with them. The natives call this vessel "God", and know exactly what it looks like - as Picard discovers when he takes one of them to the Enterprise.

On Edo, Wesley has inadvertently gone into a restricted zone and is sentenced to death by two Mediators, despite the fact that he is a visitor and does not know the law. The adults in the party - and Picard, eventually - refuse to allow him to be killed, and Picard finally gets "God" to release them all by pointing out that there can be no justice when laws and punishment are absolute.

Comment:

Sheila Clark: I was waiting with gritted teeth for Beverly Crusher to come out with the line, "We gave you back your child - give me back my son!" Thank heavens the scriptwriter had more sense! I found her constant "my son" when referring to Wesley after he had been condemned something of an irritant - it began to make me think she had forgotten his name. I also found myself wondering just how high child mortality was on Edo - their one punishment, which they believed kept them peaceful and lawabiding, did seem designed to destroy any spirit of adventure or initiative!

Edward Woo: Justice is the first episode that I have not seen before, even at the conventions. It was better than I first thought, especially the Alien God spaceship. Surely ignorance of the planet's laws should have been the escape clause for Wesley and not interference of the Prime Directive. Where were the laws to explain to visitors about the planet's rules and regulations? There were none.

Not a bad episode, especially the way people travel on the planet by running.

Again not enough of Troi and Yar was seen, I felt. They were only seen in the opening scenes and later left out with Picard and Riker in charge.

Ann Peters: There were rather a lot of extras in this episode, but they could certainly afford them because they saved so much on the costume budget!

On first viewing, the end took me by surprise because I was waiting for Picard to come up with a brilliant solution to the problem. But watching it again, I realised it was more about *whether* to save Wesley and *why*. I wonder how many fans are of the opinion that he made the wrong decision.

The discussion about justice, the prime directive and God were well done. Not only was the situation presented as a dilemma, but as Picard *seeing* the dilemma. I'm not sure James T. would have seen the Edos' point of view, although I feel sure Spock would have done. Their peace was based on their system of justice and could be damaged by the example of someone not being properly punished. Picard did break the prime directive, but not without considerable thought and discussion. He even asked Data for an objective perspective. I can't recall this being done again, which is a pity.

I dislike Picard's outburst about calling everything a something or a whatever. Highly unnecessary, since he himself then proceeded to call it a whatever. If it was meant to be funny, his attitude was far too serious to make it so.

Little continuity problems I forgive - it is only a TV show - but exactly where was Geordi meant to be all the time? Picard leaves him on the bridge, beams down to the planet and there is Geordi. The away team beaming back at the end doesn't include Geordi, but he walks back to his station with them when they arrive on the bridge. Were there so many rewrites that no-one knew where he ought to be?

When the landing party returns at the end, we catch a tiny glimpse of Data in the command chair chatting to Troi. I often wonder if that just happened to get into the shot or if it was intentional, because we don't see too many touches like that. And who was that gorgeous officer at tactical? Why didn't he get Tasha's job if it had to go to a male!

TOO SHORT A SEASON Episode No. 16 Prod No. 112. Teleplay by Michael Michaelian and D. C. Fontana, Story by Michael Michaelian. Synopsis by Sheila Clark. US Satellite Uplink Date 6/2/88. BBC 2 screening 5/12/90.

Forty years previously, Admiral Jameson had acted as mediator on Mordan IV. Karnas of Mordan had demanded weapons, which Jameson had given him... but he had also given Karnas' enemies the same weapons. The result had been forty years of war. Now another hostage situation has developed, and Karnas demands the services of the eighty-year-old Jameson to resolve it. In fact, Karnas blames Jameson for the war and wants revenge - although it is quite clear to Picard that Karnas must take some of the blame himself. Nobody forced him to keep on fighting.

Determined to redeem his previous error - he had falsified his report to cover his actions - Jameson, who is suffering from an incurable, debilitating disease, takes an overdose of a rejuvenating drug and during the course of the episode he gets younger... but his body cannot really stand the strain of the drug's effects.

Karnas, not unnaturally, refuses to accept the young man who beams down as Jameson until the Admiral shows him a scar on his wrist just before he dies. Faced with this, Karnas must accept that he has been told the truth about Jameson. Jameson is buried on Mordan IV, and the Enterprise leaves on her next mission.

Comment:

Sheila Clark: I've not been too ready to jump on likenesses between TNG and Classic Trek scripts, but the situation on Mordan sounds suspiciously like that on Neural, when the Klingons gave the Villagers weapons so Kirk gave the Hill Folk identical weapons. I find myself wondering if the basic plot was originally envisaged as a sequel to Private Little War, with Kirk called back to help resolve a continuing war - even the Admiral's name, Jameson, might be said to indicate a link. This is not one of my favourite episodes; I can't quite suspend disbelief in the extreme 'youthing' of the Admiral. I'd have been more convinced, I think, if he had simply become more active and ended up looking like a sixty-year-old instead of a twenty-year-old. Neither is it an episode in which much happens; the whole purpose of much of the story seems to be to allow Jameson to resolve his feelings of guilt.

The actor playing Karnas also played Korax in Trouble With Tribbles.

Edward Woo: This episode is based upon the idea of trying to stop the ageing process and regaining one's youth. Admiral Jameson would not have risen to his rank in Starfleet without many successes. I would not entirely blame Jameson for the 40 year civil war on the planet when he gave both sides weapons when he was a young officer. I would give some blame to his adversary as well and all the inhabitants on the planet.

It's a good episode especially when Admiral Jameson begins to get younger each hour. Would he have ever regressed back to a child or even a baby if his body was able to take the pain of alteration?

Clearly the drug he used should really be investigated for medical reasons, especially a cure for Ivorson's disease which Jameson had, that confined him to a mobile wheel chair. This would have been in the Captain's log as the record of the Admiral's death.

Ann Peters: The major recurring problem in original Trek was how to stop the transporter beaming Kirk and his friends out of a tricky situation and there was a constant search for new ways of achieving this. The major recurring problem in TNG is how to get Picard on an away team and the constant search for new excuses. In TSAS, an Admiral takes charge of the away team so Picard decides to tag along. This is not a good excuse and I'm very disappointed in him. A Captain's duty is to his ship and he should not knowingly leave it and put his life in danger - that's what he has a crew for. I thought TNG had got more realistic in this respect, but apparently not.

Arms in exchange for hostages is very much an 80s issue. Actually, I thought Jameson's solution 45 years previously was a pretty neat idea! The hostages were saved and neither side was given a military advantage. The notion that if both sides are armed to the teeth there will be no war is central to 20th century politics and was supported by James T. in A Private Little War. It wasn't Jameson's fault that the people of Mordan IV didn't understand the rules of the game. Even if Karnas didn't know that the other side had weapons like his to begin with, he would pretty soon have found out.

Karnas blamed Jameson for the devastation on his planet, but it must have been an act. Obviously he wanted a scapegoat if he could get one, but surely he didn't *really* consider himself innocent?

The futility of trying to fight off old age was discussed, but the Admiral was ill as well as old and it was the illness that was incapacitating him. Mixing the two conditions was a little confusing. It is true that wisdom comes with age, but it doesn't necessarily come with illness, and certainly not with something like Alzheimer's disease.

There was actually a bit of fighting in this episode, but it wasn't the regular crew's idea and it was shown to be a complete waste of time. I very much like the lack of gratuitous action in TNG; violence is used sparingly and effectively. The statutory outbreak of fisticuffs in almost every episode of the original series was really rather tedious at times.

THE BIG GOODBYE Episode No. 12 Prod No. 113.
Written by Tracey Torme. Synopsis by Sheila Clark.
US Satellite Uplink Date 9/1/88. BBC 2 screening 12/12/90.

En route to a contact with an insectoid race, the Jarada (pronounced Harada) which has a fanatic devotion to protocol, Picard is struggling to learn a greeting in the alien language - a greeting which must be exact - no foreign accents allowed - if the race is not to consider itself mortally insulted; and only the Captain can deliver this greeting, for only the Captain is of rank high enough for it to be accepted. A previous attempted contact failed because of a mispronounced word.

To give himself a break, he decides to give the newly designed holodeck a try, and calls up a programme on Dixon Hill, a fictional detective of the 1930s-40s. During his initial visit, he is contacted by a young woman who claims someone is trying to kill her. He has however forgotten to change, and everyone notices his uniform; so he 'returns' to the ship to change, and when he goes back, he takes Whalen, a historian, Data and Dr. Crusher.

He quickly learns that his client has indeed been killed, and is accused of murdering her on the grounds that his visiting card has been found on her. The evidence is weak enough that he has to be released, and they return to Hill's office.

Meanwhile, a probe from the planet they are approaching causes a major malfunction in the holodeck computer - they can no longer stop the programme or leave the holodeck. And they are being threatened by Cyrus Redblock and his henchman Felix Leech, who has already shot and seriously wounded Whalen. Redblock wants something - we never learn just what it is - which he suspects 'Hill' of having.

Meanwhile, in a deteriorating situation on the ship - the Jarada are becoming impatient as they wait for the greeting from Picard - Wesley has found a possible way of correcting the malfunction. The doors open, and Redblock and Leech enter the corridor, only to fade away. Crusher rushes Whalen to sickbay, and Picard is left with a policeman friend of Dixon Hill's, who asks if his wife and family will still be there after Picard has gone.. to which Picard can only say, "I don't

know."

Comments:

Sheila Clark: This episode poses an interesting moral question, especially since the programme does appear to have gone on running between Picard's two visits. (A little more is made of this in a second season episode.) Gates MacFadden shows herself to be a good comedy actress as she 'mirrors' the actions of a girl in the police station when 'Hill' is under arrest, pulling up her skirt to show more leg, putting on makeup, etc. It's just a pity she doesn't (for me) come over as well as this as a doctor. It's a stronger episode than many that have preceded it, although in many ways it's hardly a Trek episode at all - it's a 1930s private detective story. I do find myself wondering, though - since the Jarada insisted on a complex greeting in their own language before they would talk, how did the Federation learn their language?

Ewan Chalmers: Well, what can you say? This has to be one of my favourite episodes. You get the impression that everybody enjoyed making this one, as it starts from Picard's difficulty with that difficult language through to Data's great one-liner, albeit unintentionally, when they are trying to explain who they are and where they came from. His explanation of Picard's Dixon Hill as a "Facsimile, a cheap imitation", and Picard's response, were classic.

Edward Woo: The Big Goodbye is an excellent episode for Patrick Stewart, playing Picard and Dixon Hill, private detective. He and Gates MacFadden worked well in this episode at Captain and Doctor. I'd agree with Picard that Dr. Crusher does wear it well in the 1940's Police Station. Her swallowing of the chewing gum was funny. Data was superb in his costume and South American origins. He had some small scene stealers, for example wiping his nose when he was told to keep his nose clean, the moving of the electric lamp across the room and his initial final description to Geordi about the hard rain only stopped by Picard.

The episode reminded me of the Humphrey Bogart movie the Maltese Falcon and Sydney Greenstreet as the big heavy bad guy in this case was 'Redblock'.

An interesting point about the Holodeck was, do the characters devised by the computers continue to exist with no crew personnel involved? This was mentioned when the detective was talking to Dixon Hill - would his wife and children exist and life continue once Picard had left the Holodeck program?

The only murmur of discontent about this episode is why is an acting ensign allowed to be present at a command conference? And why does Wesley Crusher have to save them from the Holodeck fault?

Ann Peters: Is there nothing our Wesley can't do? Surely there was someone on that great big starship who could sort out the holodeck, without relying on the boy wonder yet again. And, child prodigy or not, what was he doing at the briefing about the Jaradan rendezvous? One cute line about teenage mating rituals was hardly enough to justify an acting ensign's attendance at such a meeting.

It was nice to see some of the regular characters dressing up and playing games. I thought Crusher came over particularly well as someone having fun trying out unfamiliar things, though she would obviously have enjoyed it more if she had had Picard to herself. I liked seeing the Captain rush onto the bridge in a 20th century suit to give his vital greeting, but I think Data should have changed uniform first.

Is Dixon Hill English? I would think it unlikely that the hero of 1930s American comics would be. Yet no-one on the holodeck mentioned Picard's accent, although everyone noticed Data's complexion. The observation that he had a 'nice tan' would have been more effective if he looked as gold on television as we're told he really is.

Contractions didn't seem to be a problem for Data in this episode. Perhaps if

he pretended he was someone else all the time, he would be able to master them. Just before entering the holodeck, he was originally meant to give a demonstration that he was fully versed in the genre of Dixon Hill. Unfortunately it was cut, and all we are left with is a continuity error in the position of his hat.

I very much liked the holodeck characters, especially Leech who wanted to kill everybody, and the fact that we never found out what 'the item' was, was a nice touch. There was some amusing dialogue as they all discussed who was real and who was not. But aren't these computer-generated characters getting bit too real when they start to ask questions about their existence? How long before one of them demands a court hearing to determine its legal status? Perhaps they could be programmed to be a little less conscious. And if what Wesley said is true, and an aborted programme could result in real, non-holographic people vanishing, then I hope these holodecks come with a Federation health warning.

DATALORE Episode No. 13 Prod No. 114. Teleplay by Robert Lewin and Gene Roddenberry, Story by Robert Lewin and Maurice Hurley. Synopsis by Sheila Clark. US Satellite Uplink Date 16/1/88. BBC 2 screening 19/12/90.

En route to another destination, Picard decides that, since they are passing near it, they have enough time for a quick check of the planet where Data was found. The planet had been a farming colony, but when they enter orbit they discover that it is completely dead; even the soil is no longer able to support life. They can only assume that the planet was dying at the time Data was found.

They find an underground complex beside where Data was found, and in it is another - disassembled - android, its face identical to Data's. They take it back to the ship and reassemble it.

This android - Lore - is altogether more Human than Data; he can smile, his speech patterns are more relaxed; and we eventually learn that he was so Human that the colonists petitioned creator Noonian Soong to dismantle him and replace him with one less perfect.

Lore however considers himself to be above Humans. He knocks Data out and takes his place, then communicates with a crystal entity (the thing that destroyed the colony), calling it, his intention being to give all life on the ship to it; it arrives with frightening speed.

Wesley notices that 'Data's' speech patterns are wrong and guesses what has happened, but nobody will listen to him - his eventual despairing comment, "If I had been an adult crewmember, you would have listened to me!" is justified. He does however manage to get his mother to check on the real Data, who goes with them to stop Lore.

Lore threatens Wesley, thus blackmailing both Crusher and Data into doing as he says, especially after he gets a phaser off Crusher, but his viciousness leads him to fire it at her and Data seizes his chance to attack. He tosses Lore onto a transporter platform and Wesley beams Lore into space. The crystal entity leaves again, obviously realising that the Enterprise is too well defended for it to succeed in an attack.

Edward Woo: Datalore gives Brent Spiner a chance to play a double. This is an excellent episode. It is an opportunity to see Data's home world, where he was made. I can see why Lore was disassembled, he was too Human for the Humans to trust. I agree with Dr. Crusher, if a person had an ON and OFF switch that person would not want other people to know.

In the story, why must it be young Crusher to notice the differences between Data and Lore and not one of the other members of the crew like Riker? There was no mention of where Counselor Troi was in this story. The bits I enjoyed were when Picard and Dr. Crusher said 'Shut up, Wesley' - just great! I think it is best

just to have one Data android as it could make life a bit difficult for Picard.

In the story the Snow Flake alien was very imaginative and could have done untold damage to the Enterprise. An episode to keep on file.

Ann Peters: I have a soft spot for Datalore because it was the first TNG I ever saw and it is definitely one of my very favourite episodes. The early scenes were full of atmosphere; the planet was eerie and the underground complex came over as vast and empty. The music combined superbly with the visuals to create the over-all effect. Music was also used to good effect when Data was watching Lore being assembled, and, although I don't particularly like violence, Lore flooring Worf in the turbolift was pure poetry - swift and effective with just the right soundtrack. One of my first impressions was of the feeling between crew members, particularly sympathy towards Data, and I am often puzzled that TNG is criticised for lack of feelings.

For Data, of course, this episode was quite a traumatic experience. At first he was overjoyed to find another being like himself after spending his whole life being different. He learned of his roots and even learned what type of brain he has (did he *really* not know for 26 years?). But Data's discovery that he is less perfect than Lore upset him more than he let on and he didn't really understand his newfound brother. Eventually, when Lore attacked him and threatened everyone on the Enterprise, Data was forced to dispose of the only other being in the universe like himself, just after he'd found him. Pretty traumatic - even for an android. At the time, the method of disposal seemed rather permanent, but... well... in television, anything is possible!

The introduction of Lore posed the question of whether we really want androids to feel. An android with emotional vices could be extremely dangerous, as Lore clearly demonstrated, whereas Data, with no feelings at all, functions very well in Human society. Riker expressed the opinion that Data is perfectly well balanced exactly as he is.

Lore was played superbly and came over as very different from Data; at times it was easy to forget it was the same actor. The technical problems of a twin were dealt with using a split screen or filming parts of another person and these worked extremely well. The first time I saw the champagne scene, I didn't believe what I was seeing! Use of the whole body of a double, however, as in the fight scene, was far less convincing. And what a shame they spoiled that wonderful champagne scene by a dreadful continuity error at the end.

BOOK & VIDEO REVIEWS

FORTUNE'S LIGHT by Michael Jan Friedman Pocket and Titan (TNG 15)
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This is a TNG novel.

Imprima is a planet run by what might be called trade 'gangs'. Each group (madraga) controls some aspect of trade, and for some time the planet had been allied with the Ferengi. Five years previously, however, a Starfleet delegation had made contact with the planet and persuaded most of the madraggi that their interests would be better served if they were allied to the Federation.

As the story begins, Riker receives a classified transmission from Starfleet Command, ordering him to Imprima. He had been one of the trade delegation, another of the group had been Teller Conlon, a close friend of Riker's. After the trade agreement was made, Conlon remained behind as Federation trade liaison - he had been fascinated by the planet.

Now he has disappeared... and with him, a jewel-encrusted seal, Fortune's Light, a priceless possession of Madgara Criathis, the Federation's main supporter on Imprima. Criathis is in the process of establishing a merger with Madraga Terrin - and without Fortune's Light, it cannot be finalised. The failure of this merger would benefit certain of the other madraggi, in particular one called Rhurig, which has not benefitted from the link with the Federation.

Riker's orders are to discover what has happened to Conlon, of whose honesty he is convinced. Unfortunately it soon transpires that Conlon has been deeply involved in dishonest dealings during his time on Imprima, and Riker reluctantly realises that his friend is indeed guilty. What he then has to discover is why.

There is a subplot; before his departure, Riker had just finalised a program for the holodeck that involved a baseball game played three hundred years previously - a game lost by a single run. Riker's idea was to find a way of reversing the result. He left Data to test the program, and certain of the chapters are devoted to this.

Let's take the positive comments first. Much of the book is very readable. The bits involving Riker are good, although he is for much of the book cut off from the Enterprise. Mr. Friedman's own characters are well drawn and believable and the culture logically established; Riker's slow acceptance of his friend's dishonesty is realistic. However - I can't help feeling that the bits involving the holodeck program are there purely to keep the other characters in the book. Data's confusion about baseball is not particularly convincing, but it must be very difficult for a writer to think himself into the skin of someone depicted as knowing nothing about a game that 'everyone' knows, when he clearly knows it well himself. Although Data is depicted as having to learn the game as it proceeds, Mr. Friedman clearly assumes that the reader knows both the rules and the terms used in the game, and as far as some of these are concerned, I was no wiser at the end than when I started. Because of this, I'd have to give the book no more than 7 out of 10. It's a pity, because Mr. Friedman is a good writer and I would have thought him too professional to fall into such a simple trap.

FORTUNE'S LIGHT by Michael Jan Friedman Pocket and Titan (TNG 15)
Reviewed by Sharon Holmes.

The main storyline of this book is extremely entertaining - full of deceit, action, intrigue and twists. In general, the plot contains some very good twists and a very good climax.

Riker partners native female retainer Lyneea in the search for the Fortune's Light - an extremely important part of Madragi culture, economics and trade with the Federation. Riker's old friend Teller Conlon has disappeared along with the Fortune's Light and so is therefore accused of its theft.

Riker's friendship with Conlon is of great importance to him, and being on Imprima brings back warm memories of their times together, making Riker determined to prove his innocence.

That's all you're getting of the story - any more and I'll give it away!

I found that the female main character - Lyneea - was slightly typical of a ST Universe female - ie tough, no-nonsense, let's get the job done kind of female, who gradually becomes 'softer' and more feminine throughout the novel. You can almost hear Riker mutter, "Oh no, not another one!" under his breath when he meets her!

The planet itself and its culture were well described and hence it was very easy for the reader to imagine being there and to understand the current situation.

I have one extremely HUGE dislike about this novel, and it isn't really the author's fault as the novel is initially written for the US market.

Prior to his away mission, Riker created a baseball match (from a favourite childhood book) in the holodeck. Not being able to use the program, he offers the use of it to Data.

This is relatively enjoyable to begin with as Data is learning about the game and hence the reader does. After a while it becomes very tedious - full of incomprehensible baseball jargon. In these latter scenes, I found myself suffering terminal boredom and subconsciously skipping these parts. It really does spoil the novel if you're not a baseball fan.

Excusing these particular scenes, this novel really is an enjoyable read with elements of Riker's character and relationship with Picard being handled extremely well.

One for the collection!

GHOST-WALKER by Barbara Hambly Pocket (53) & Titan (44) £2.99
Reviewed by Lorraine Goodison

I'll make no secret of the fact that I consider Barbara Hambly an excellent writer with an eye for character detail which many other writers should envy. It was no surprise then to find I enjoyed Ghost Walker from the first page to the last.

Although the back cover blurb makes it sound like yet another trendy ecological tale, that aspect is briefly touched on. It is chiefly a ghost story where the ghost isn't one - yet - and intends to avoid that fate; a tale of one man's sense of self and another's inability to separate his love for his people from his own fears.

There is, of course, a romance for the Captain, but it is well handled and plausible. Even better, all the crew get a look-in, with a few names added, and there are delightful references to events in aired episodes.

I have been told that this is similar to another Trek novel, but as I haven't read that one, I cannot comment. Even if it is, Barbara Hambly knows the Enterprise and her crew inside-out and Ghost Walker is a fast-paced, enjoyable read.

GHOST-WALKER by Barbara Hambly Pocket (53) & Titan (44) £2.99
Reviewed by Helen White

The Enterprise has problems - again!

After visiting Elcidar Beta III, the landing party returns to the ship, but all is not as it seems. Captain Kirk isn't himself, and there seems to be a poltergeist aboard!

This is the second of Barbara Hambly's ST novels, and it is just as good as the first, which is Ishmael; an excellent story and one of my favourites. Ghost-Walker is a really exciting story, with plenty of action and several humorous moments. Although I guessed very quickly what was causing the poltergeist problem, I couldn't guess how it would be solved, and there were other intriguing things going on at the same time, including the poisoning of Kirk's latest girl friend, who was going to settle down with him; the poor woman ends up in sickbay. Spock has a few problems too! The characterisation is uniformly good, with everyone behaving in the expected fashion, and the new characters are all totally convincing. I do feel sorry for Helen (the girl friend) though; the poor thing gets rather a raw deal!

The plot is quite intricate, but everything fits together very well, and I

would definitely recommend this book... 10/10

CONTAMINATION by John Vornholt Pocket and Titan (TNG 16) Reviewed by Sheila Clark

This is a TNG book.

Eighty years old, Lynn and Emil Costa have long been known as experts in the field of microbiology. Their microcontamination project has been running on the Enterprise for three years, apparently well. Suddenly, however, Lynn has what appears to be a brain storm; she destroys many of her records and becomes desperate to get off the Enterprise. Meanwhile, her husband Emil is talking of retiring. Deanna Troi recommends that the pair be given a sabbatical at their next port of call - but before they reach it, Lynn is murdered. Emil, regarded as the most likely suspect, now also becomes desperate to get off the Enterprise.

I'm not sure whether I liked this book or not. I enjoyed it while I was reading it, but I found it quite easy to put down; it didn't grip me to the point where I just had to find out what happened next. I think part of the problem was that I couldn't quite suspend disbelief in certain aspects of the story. The microcontamination 'unit' - which seemed to have a staff of five named personnel - seemed out of proportion large when it was described; its description seemed to me to be of a very large laboratory taking up a great deal of space, the sort of lab. that would employ hundreds - and while the Enterprise is certainly large, she's not *that* large! Another problem was that Worf was in charge of the investigation - and while I've nothing against Worf, I'm not greatly interested in him (the TNG episodes revolving round the Klingons are among my least favourites). The story was well handled, the case against Emil Costa building up convincingly, and the twist was unexpected - let's just say that I got everything right but the motive, but I would defy most readers to get that right from the facts given. I'd rate it 6-7 out of 10; but readers who like Klingons might very well give it 9.

DEMONS by J M Dillard Pocket (30) and Titan (43). Reviewed by Helen White

The Vulcan expedition to Beekman's Planet and the Hydrilla sector returns home after forty years, with some very interesting items. Some of the scientists go straight to Vulcan, and the rest of the group travel aboard the Enterprise.

However, something nasty is afoot. On Vulcan, someone in Sarek's house is behaving irrationally - Amanda's rose garden is destroyed for no apparent reason - and on the Enterprise a sadistic murder is committed. As the ship is en route to Vulcan anyway with the scientists, they are asked to investigate.

This is another brilliant book from Jeanne Dillard; she has yet to produce anything else, as far as I'm concerned.

Even though there are some horrible gruesome bits in it, I still really enjoyed the story, as those bits weren't too numerous. The book is a very good one for Spock/McCoy fans such as myself - there's a lot of their usual banter, and the book comes over in general as cheerful. I can't comment as much as I might like to on the plot, which is cleverly worked out, because I would give too much away, but I will say that it got to the point where I wondered who'd be next - and that's all I can say!

The main new character, Anitra Lanter, is in the Evan Wilson (Uhura's Song) mould - she gets on with the job in hand and doesn't droop around doing nothing in particular. Characterisation in general is good; Ms. Dillard's version of the crew suits me fine.

It you're at all squeamish, bits of the book may well upset you a bit, but apart from that, it's a jolly good read. 8/10 (I've taken 2 off because of those bits!)

DEMONS by J M Dillard Pocket (30) and Titan (43). Reviewed by Sharon Holmes

This has to go down as one of my all-time favourite Star Trek novels. This is the fourth time I've read it (I have the Pocket book version) and I've enjoyed it almost as much as I did my first reading.

J.M Dillard has created a masterpiece of Star Trek fiction. Throughout the novel, I found my curiosity continually aroused but never really satisfied until the very end.

The storyline is neither too complex or too simple - just intriguing. In total it is GRIPPING, sad, humorous, exciting, generally unpredictable and definitely unputdownable! The novel 'subconsciously' explores the relationship between Spock and McCoy, throwing more light onto this particular subject than the usual "they fight a lot, but love each other really" kind of thing!

What really makes the novel viable and believable is the fact that there REALLY is a serious threat to the Galaxy - i.e the blurb on the back cover is fulfilled" (And not a rip in the space-time continuum (for Spock to sew up before a disputed planet is swallowed) in sight!)

On the negative side, I found this novel similar to Dillard's Mindshadow in some aspects. For example, most of the action occurs on Vulcan (centred in Spock's household) and McCoy falls in love with the central female character. Also there were places in which forthcoming events were very predictable - but these were not frequent and didn't ruin the plot/storyline.

Dillard has, in general, brought some originality back to the age-old ploy of entity-possessed crew. She continually keeps the reader interested by twisting the story - you're sighing relief one moment and are tensed the next. I was never sure of who to trust.

Should you choose to purchase this book - and if your memory is as useless as mine! - I'm sure you'll be able to read and enjoy this book again and again. As with Mindshadow - the first time you read this book - spare the weekend!"

MINDSHADOW by J M Dillard Pocket (27) and Titan (41). Reviewed by Sharon Holmes

This is JM Dillard's debut Star Trek novel and it's great. This book is quality Star Trek!

Mindshadow is a sort of whodunnit and written in such an excellent fashion that the reader can NEVER tell whether the baddie is a baddie or might be a goodie after all. Just as the reader is led to believe the baddie is a goodie, the story twists and the reader is left doubting again.

What I really loved about this book were the scenes showing the relationship between Spock and Uhura; a path which I feel is infrequently ventured by many authors. It was wonderful to see the emphasis shift off the Kirk-Spock-McCoy relationship for a while.

Another pleasant insight was into Vulcan family/domestic life in Spock's household on Vulcan, which Dillard handled brilliantly. The entire story is unpredictable, highly original and hence highly delightful. Dillard continually offers the reader small insights into characters and character relationships throughout the novel.

My only criticisms are the following: Firstly, Chekov and Sulu hardly get a mention and secondly, Spock receives a medal for falling off a cliff!!! Even though the medal is for injuries in the line of duty, I still feel it was a bit OTT.

A word of advice to the potential reader: Spare the weekend, lock the doors and disconnect the phone and doorbell. These precautions should be taken because once you pick up this book, you'll need the strength of 10 'anti-trekkers' to put it down!"

STAR TREK EPISODES 61/62 by Gloria Fry

SPOCK'S BRAIN by Lee Cronin

A woman beams aboard the Enterprise Bridge, renders everyone unconscious, and steals Spock's brain. The body is left in Sickbay, and Kirk has only twenty-four hours to find the brain and get it replaced before the body dies. They find the brain controlling an underground complex on a glaciated world. The women live there and control the men, who live on the harsh planet surface above. These women rule by the use of control mechanisms which can inflict extreme pain on the men, and Kirk, Scott and McCoy get a taste of that punishment. McCoy restores Spock's brain to his body by assimilating the knowledge from a device left by the builders of the place, and all is well in the end, except that the women will have to leave the protected underground environment to live above.

This famous episode is one of the 'poorer' ones of the series, but on seeing it again after many years, my opinion is that it is not half as bad as it is painted. The early scenes on the ship were actually full of action and interplay of characters, with some unusual camera shots of the bridge as Kirk stands in front of the viewscreen discussing the options with his crew. The scenes on the planet were a little farcical, with Spock being controlled by a remote... I love the scene where there is a big fight going on, and Spock is just sitting on a chair, not moving a muscle as bodies fly all over the room. How did Nimoy do it, and how did he keep a straight face as he was 'guided' around the place?

If handled properly, this could have been a much better episode, for the concept is an interesting one. I don't consider it the worst in the series, for me that is a tie between The Alternative Factor and Way To Eden.

McCoy says of the leader Kara, that her mental faculties had atrophied. One suspects he was right, for why else would she only be interested in Spock's 'brain'....

IS THERE IN TRUTH NO BEAUTY by Jean Lisette Aroeste.

The Medusan ambassador Kolos, the Human telepath Dr Miranda Jones, and Human engineer Larry Marvick beam to the Enterprise. They are part of an experiment to design new technology to allow Medusans to work with other races. The Medusans are a species which no Human can look upon without madness and death following. Vulcans, with the use of a special visor, are immune. Miranda is attempting to reach mind-contact with Kolos, but Marvick, who is in love with her, resents her commitment to Kolos, and tries to assassinate the ambassador. He sees Kolos, runs amok on the ship, and sends the Enterprise out of the galaxy unto Unknown Space.

Spock volunteers to mind-meld with Kolos in an attempt to navigate the ship home, but is concerned about Miranda's jealousy of his Vulcan telepathic abilities. Kirk tries to distract her, but only succeeds for a short time; Miranda tries to stop the meld, wishing to join with Kolos herself, but McCoy's revelation that she is blind and cannot pilot a starship, plus the ambassador's refusal, ends her hopes. Spock and Kolos become a double entity and return the ship home, but Spock forgets his visor, and sees Kolos. He becomes violent, and is put under restraint in Sickbay, close to death. After harsh and truthful words from Kirk, Miranda concentrates all her telepathic ability on restoring Spock to health. She leaves with Kolos after finally having achieved telepathic communion with him.

This is a classic episode. All the elements are there. Suspense, love,

jealousy, passion, hate... Diana Muldaur is impressive as Miranda; an excellent actress and a beautiful woman. Miranda is full of dignity, but has an inner fire which all the men recognise and respond to; but her real love is the alien Kolos, whom she can never see, nor physically touch.

The weird elongated camera angles are most effective, giving a sense of unreality to the viewpoint of the person's vision of the others. I particularly like the scene where Spock tosses everyone aside as if they weighed little more than children.

Nimoy was exceptional when he became Kolos. His facial expressions were subtly altered, and one could believe that he was not only Spock, but a fusion of two beings.

Shatner also, especially in the scene where he forces Miranda to see her own jealousy and ugliness, and the worry after when he fears he may have gone too far, played with passionate intensity.

In my view one of the best episodes of Star Trek.

ZINE REVIEWS

PARTING OF THE WAYS by Sue Embury. Reviewed by Karen Sparks.

This one-story zine is 87 pages long and includes some very good, full page illustrations by the author. The price of £3.95 (UK) includes a 30p donation to the IDIC guide dog fund.

The story is set at the end of the Enterprise's five year mission and covers the next few months. The crew are given shoreleave and circumstances split up Kirk, Spock and McCoy. Spock, in the early stages of Pon Farr, must return to Vulcan. As before, he invites Kirk and McCoy to accompany him but they have other commitments. McCoy goes to Alaska to help a seriously ill, old doctor friend with his practice, and Kirk is instructed to undertake a secret "unofficial" mission involving protomatter on Wrigley's Pleasure Planet.

Alternating chapters deal with each character and there is good contrast between Kirk's adventures and mysteries, Spock's peace in learning to accept that he can indeed have the best of both his inherited worlds and McCoy's quiet, introspective scenes.

Much of the story is set on Vulcan and includes some background of its history and tradition, and Spock's relationship with his parents - and his wife. These scenes are all written with sensitivity and understanding and I found them a delight to read. I would guess that Spock must be the writer's favourite character; he is the most accurately (in my opinion) and confidently written of the three. The only incident I would quibble with is whether Spock, however distraught, would use the nerve pinch on his mother; this was the only part of the moving and well told story of what led Spock to seek the discipline of Kolinahr which did not ring absolutely true.

Most of McCoy's characterisation I also agreed with; his painful indecision over his future career is well written, although I don't agree with the widespread view of him as a near-alcoholic. Kirk, I felt, gave the author a little more trouble than the other two - although this is just my opinion, and I would be the last person to criticise this as I find Kirk *impossible* to write! The relationship between Kirk and McCoy was well drawn and I wished there had been more scenes with them interacting.

I would definitely recommend Parting of the Ways to anyone who enjoys good

character stories, and especially to Spock fans. I look forward to reading more of Sue's work in the future.

ONE IS ONE by Janet Kilbourne pub Shadowfax Publications, 1981 - out of print
Reviewed by Helen White

Spock has been kidnapped by Dillon, a sadistic showman who makes his money by travelling to planets without interstellar spaceflight capability and showing off his 'collection' of aliens as freaks of nature.

Back on the Enterprise, Kirk and McCoy are frantically searching for their friend, with help from Darvon, a Cylothian who has also lost a friend to Dillon.

Before I say anything else, I'd better mention that unless you like hurt/comfort zines, you will *not* enjoy this one at all! Dillon is not a nice man and what he does to his 'collection' to keep them under control is related in some detail.

This is actually my favourite zine. Not only is it basically a Spock story, but it is written with Medical Log excerpts with McCoy speaking about how he and Kirk feel about Spock. The characterisation of the 'regulars' is excellent, and the extra characters are very good too. The plot is obviously well thought out, and it's a very exciting story with a lot of action. It's quite unusual for a h/c zine: Kirk and McCoy don't do much comforting themselves. Instead, Galdov, a fellow captive of Spock, helps him to keep going. It all adds up to make a great 'feelings' story.

I have two complaints about this zine;

- i) the print is too faint, because it's an old zine and done on stencils, and
- ii) it's too short!! It's the sort of zine that makes you cross when you've finished it because it was so good.

Basically, I recommend it wholeheartedly to any h/c fans, particularly if they're Spock fans too.

NOISES IN THE ATTIC by Rosemary Senior. BSFR. Reviewed by Cath Russell

I cannot recommend this zine too highly. (I should say, though, that I am very new to zines so that may not mean very much!) So far the only others I've read are the 4 Make It So issues which impressed me no end, especially the stories by Lorraine Goodison and Karen Sparks. So sending for Noises in the Attic was rather an experiment to see what else there was, one which I'm glad I tried!

The story begins with two mysteries, that of the strange noises keeping Picard awake at night and that of various incidents of stolen food. A race of owl-like aliens turn out to be the culprits. The Enterprise's present mission is to deliver a group of terraformers to their new planet - Gaia. This is complicated by the discovery of a vessel in trouble, a group of refugees from their warring planet Exos IV. While their ship is being repaired they are accommodated on board and naturally mix with the terraformers. The resulting problems and how they are solved form the theme of the story.

One thing I really liked about this zine was that it didn't concentrate on one character. The action takes place on board and everyone gets a look in. To my mind one of the weaknesses of a few of the books is that they concentrate almost wholly on one character to the exclusion of the others. I've just finished Fortune's Light (TNG novel No. 15) and quite honestly if you're not a Riker fanatic or mad about baseball then it's quite heavy going! Others might disagree, of course...

Humour is very much to the fore in Noises in the Attic also, with some lovely images. I had no trouble imagining Worf 'marching' down the corridor having decided that it was better to take his annoyance out on the holodeck than tear off the arm of an offending Ensign! Likewise the vision of Picard 'sprawled on the floor amidst shattered crockery, biscuits and feathers' had me chuckling away...

I must praise the artwork in this zine, too; the cover is particularly good, and various other pictures show members of the crew and the Antillicans.

All in all an excellent story, nicely written, lots of humour and well worth a look. I for one hope that Rosemary Senior intends to write more.

NEW ZINES

Check Zine Ads for ordering details.

ScoTpress/IDIC

IDIC LOG 5 - Spock's thoughts after Deadly Years; the days following Fal Tor Pan; the Romulan commander died in Balance of Terror... or did he?; a passenger has designs on Kirk; a diplomatic mission; Kirk and Spock meet early in their careers under less than ideal circumstances; Chekov crashes an aircar; Sybok takes over Spock's mind. 94 pages, £3.75 UK.

CAPRICCIO ITALIEN by Sue Jones. The Enterprise picks up a priority one distress call from Leonardo's planet - but everyone there denies having sent it. Things, however, are not what they seem. Does the Governor's Klingon servant know more than he is saying? 103 pages, £3.80 UK.

A CITY WITHOUT WALLS by Alinda Alain. Although he has already been defeated, Mitchell's jealousy of Kirk and Spock forces him to keep on trying to destroy them. 60 pages, £2.90 UK.

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Kay Stagg 33 Barrack Rd, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 6RU.

GAESA - Admiral Kirk and the crew of the Enterprise return to the planet Temennu a decade after the events recorded in Scryer. 190 pages. \$13.50 + postage. Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy, 6273 Balfour, Lansing, MI 48911, USA.

KALIFFEE 1 - Kirk has returned to the ISS Enterprise and Spock is determined to find his 'Human' side; Spock is kidnapped and a show of force could jeopardise delicate negotiations; and more. K/S - age statement required. 170 pages. \$12.50 + postage. Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy, 6273 Balfour, Lansing, MI 48911, USA.

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LONE STAR TREK 3 (hurt-comfort/action-adventure). Classic Trek and TNG stories. Kirk and Sarek evaluate Kzinti readiness to join the Federation and their estimation of each other changes greatly; an alien energy web traps ships from all over the galaxy - the Enterprise crew must convince the others that working together is their only hope to escape; Troi confronts Riker about their previous relationship; Wesley finds a mysterious button on board the Enterprise; and others.

(available March 15 1991). \$25 OS airmail, \$18 USA, \$19 Canada.
Laurie Haynes, P.O. Box 189, DeRidder, LA 70634, USA

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IDIC/SciTpress

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IDIC LOG 4 - U.K. £3.75; U.S.A. \$15.50 air, \$11.50 surface; Europe £4.75; Australia £7.00.

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IDIC LOG 2 - ECHOES OF THE PAST by Christopher Ng. When the Excelsior disappears, the Enterprise is sent to look for her. U.K. £3.80; U.S.A. \$14.50 air, \$11.00 surface; Europe £4.80; Australia £7.25

IDIC LOG 1 - U.K. £3.55; U.S.A. \$14.25 air, \$10.75 surface; Europe £4.55; Australia £7.00

HOME TO ROOST - reprints of stories by Sheila Clark and Valerie Piacentini. Nos. 1 & 2, each UK £3.55; USA \$14.15 air, \$10.65 surface; Europe £4.55; Australia £6.95; No. 3 UK £3.10; USA \$13.00 air, \$9.50 surface; Europe £4.10; Australia £6.00.

CAPRICCIO ITALIEN by Sue Jones. The Enterprise picks up a Priority 1 call from Leonardo's Planet, but when the ship arrives there, everyone denies having sent it. However things are not as peaceful as they seem. The Governor is an old friend of Kirk's; but does his Klingon aide, who claims to be a Leonardan, know more than he is telling? U.K. £3.80; U.S.A. \$14.35 air, \$10.85 surface; Europe £4.80; Australia £7.10.

CITY WITHOUT WALLS by Alinda Alain. A sequel to One Among You. Although he has been defeated already, Mitchell's jealousy will not let him rest until he has destroyed the friendship between Kirk and Spock. Due March. U.K. £2.90; U.S.A. \$12.00 air, \$9.00 surface; Europe £3.90; Australia £5.50.

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MAKE IT SO 4 - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £3.75; U.S.A. \$14.25 air, \$10.75 surface; Europe £4.75; Australia £7.00. Accepting submissions for issue 5 on. Also available - No. 1 UK £2.95; USA \$13.00 air, \$9.50 surface; Europe £3.95; Australia £6.95. No. 2 & No.3, each - UK £3.55; USA \$14.25 air, \$10.75 surface; Europe £4.55; Australia £7.00.

ESSAYS OF AQUARIUS by Marion Van Der Voort. The adventures of Captain Bill Sava, First Officer Radin and Dr. Teddy Bhaer of the Aquarius. On embarkation leave,

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6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. USA - we have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America and Canada.

We are soliciting submissions for IDIC and ScoTpress zines - stories, poems, artwork - of both original Trek and TNG material, either short stories for IDIC LOG, ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES or MAKE IT SO, or long ones suitable for printing on their own. No stories about death of main characters (except Yar!) or explicit sex; stories should include at least one character who has appeared in aired Trek. These are, after all, the voyages of the Starship Enterprise... (in either incarnation). Send submissions to Scotpress, Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland, or Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.

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SECOND CHANCE/A COLD BY ANY OTHER NAME (previously appeared in Stargate I and Stargate II), 75 pages £3.00. TROUBLES REVISITED/THE RIFT/JUSTICE SHOULD BE SEEN TO BE DONE (previously appeared in Stargate III and ScoTpress Log Entries 61) 90 pages £3.60. FREEDOM - full length story, 167 pages - £4.70. TOO MANY AVENUES - full length story 171 pages - £4.70. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to Kay Stagg and send order to 33 Barrack Rd, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 6RU. Postage (second class) and packing included in price. For Europe & Overseas rates please send IRC. For other items, ie pens, pencils, notebooks, etc, send SAE for info.

Merry Men Press

FIRST TIME zines contain K/S stories, art and poetry. Age statement required. FIRST TIME is always on time. All inquiries and orders are promptly filled, no-one's left to hang on the line. SAE (addressed envelope and 2 IRCs) for more info. FIRST TIME 1 - 28 available.
WITHIN THE MIRROR - an all mirror-related K/S zine. Full of first time stories, and on time. Within the Mirror I is nominated for several awards. Within the Mirror II - V are also currently in print. BESIDE MYSELF 1 & 2 - well-illustrated K/S zines exclusively written by Robin Hood and her assorted pen names. FETISH - a K/S novel by Jenny Starr. Winner of 1988 Best Novel. PORTRAITS - A K/S novel by Charlotte Frost. SCATTERED STARS 1 & 2 - an alternate universe K/S fanzine. BEFORE AND AFTER - Blake's 7 '/' zine. PLAYFELLOWS a '/' multi-media zine. S/H - Batman - Hooker - War of the Worlds - Twin Peaks - Professionals and more. It does not contain any K/S as this will continue to go into one of my K/S zines. Prices for all zines are \$20.00 US, \$22.00 Canada, \$26.00 foreign. US currency only please.

STARRY NIGHTS - a proposed adult science fiction zine, seeking submissions. These must all be aimed at the adult reader and be original science fiction. Accepted submissions will be paid 1c per word. SASE for more info.
Submissions for all the above welcome - we are always looking for quality submissions of prose and art. If you use a computer, I am compatible with IBM.
Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Rd, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA

BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY

For postage, add up the weight of the zines you want then check the postage table.

Weight	Air	Surface
Up to 2 lbs	\$16.35	\$8.60
Up to 3 lbs	\$22.40	\$11.40
Up to 4 lbs	\$27.40	\$13.90
Up to 5 lbs	\$33.75	\$17.25

For higher weights, add \$4.50/lb air, \$2.25 surface.

A COMPANION FOR MY DEATH - 180 page post Gauda Prime novel (Blake's Seven) by Tashery Shannon. AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED! \$20 + postage (1.2 pounds)

GAESA - by Zaqia Tarhuntassa. Sequel to Scryer. \$13.50 + postage (1.4 lbs)
 KALIFFEE 1 - AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED! K/S zine edited by Sheri and Sandi Hawke.
 \$12.50 + postage (1.2 lbs) Issue 2 is open for submissions, Sheri Hawke, c/o Bill
 Hupe.

KRAITH COLLECTED - the classic series started by Jacqueline Lichtenberg. Kraith is
 a series of stories exploring a truly alien Vulcan culture. Vol 1, \$9.00. Vol 2,
 3 and Creator's Manual (linguistics etc) \$7.75 each. Vol 4, 6, \$7.75 PPD. Vol 5
 (alternate universe issue) \$6.50.

SHADOWS BETWEEN US - K/S novel by Anna Parrish. We are agenting this one. \$11.50
 + postage (1.4 lbs)

TREE OF LIFE 1 - Robin of Sherwood zine, 230 pages with material based on both
 Robins. \$17.25 + postage (1.5 lbs) ToFL 2 is seeking adult submissions (no slasn
 please). Send submissions to Seer Stone, c/o Todd Parrish, 520 E Center St, Provo
 UT 84606 USA.

TREXINDEX - the ultimate guide to Star Trek fanzines. Supplement 6 Vol 1,
 author/title/subject listing of 400 Trek fanzines (classic and TNG). Looking for
 the Kirk/Uhura story? Spock as a Mouseketeer? Even a Wesley love story?
 Trexindex will tell you where to find it! \$15.50 + postage (2 lbs) All back
 supplements are available. Supplement 6 Vol 2, Poet/artist listings for zines
 indexed in Vol 1. Want to find every poem by Robin Hood? Every piece of art by
 Robert Jan? This is where you'll find it! \$9.25

DATA ENTRIES 1 - 11 - the Brent Spiner/Data newsletter. 1 - 4. \$1 each, 5 - 11,
 \$1.50 each, postage on each 1/8 lb.

Order from Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy, Suite 50, 920 Trowbridge Rd No. 2, East
 Lansing, MI 48823, USA.

HAILING FREQUENCIES 3 - submissions now being accepted. Cross-over stories
 enthusiastically received. SASE for guidelines to Douglas M Griffin III, Plasma
 Press, 1515 E Kane Pl No. 40, Milwaukee, WI 53202, USA.

A MATTER OF HONOR - TNG zine now accepting submissions of stories, poetry and art.
 New and experienced writers/artists all welcomed. Submissions accepted on IBM,
 Apple 2E or MAC ASCII format. Submissions to Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy, 6273
 Balfour, Lansing, MI 48911, USA.

FROM THE LOG OF THE RED DWARF - We've had enough people asking, so we decided to
 jump in. Sorry, we cannot accept submissions from holograms, but we can accept
 from anybody else, including genetically altered cats... Bill Hupe and Peg Kennedy,
 6273 Balfour, Lansing, MI 48911, USA.

WHO WAS THAT MASKED MAN? 1 - STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION This is the first
 in what is planned to be a long line of information zines. The next one planned is
 "Star Trek: The Original Series". This issue contains biographical info and credit
 listings for the Next Generation cast. 20 pages, A5 with card covers. Price £1.00
 anywhere in Europe and £2.00 airmail to the rest of the world. Also available FRANK
 - a series of multi-media zines, and ADZINE, a quarterly newsletter which lists
 everything fannish, from fanzines to conventions to want ads. £2 per issue to UK
 and Europe, £3 elsewhere. Ads are free to subscribers, so feel free to send me
 details of your club, zine, con, whatever when you subscribe. Multi-media fanzines
 and photographs also available. Send large SAE for list. Janet Ellicott, 43
 Brooksbank House, Retreat place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, England.

DUET (K/S zine) is now being put out by Carole Weatherill and Janice MacDonald.
 If ordering Duet K/S material an age statement is required. Anyone wishing to
 submit stories (long or short) please submit to *both* Carole Weatherill and Janice
 MacDonald.

Orders to Janice MacDonald. Prices as follows: U.K. £5.00, USA \$20.00, Europe
 £6.00, others £9.00. 2 IRCs and an SAE should be included for foreign enquiries.
 Carole Weatherill, 8 St. Margarets Grove, Twickenham, Middx. TW1 1JG
 Janice MacDonald, 10 Lorne Gardens, Laurieston, Falkirk, Stirlingshire, Scotland.

UNIVERSER & UNIVERSER 2 - Star Trek poetry and prose, Price each: UK £2.00, Europe
 £3.00, Aust/Japan £3.50, USA \$5.00, including postage. Also available - zines
 containing stories about other characters played by Leonard Nimoy. Copyright
 Tsaela Press. All available from Linda C Wood, 186 Copland Road, Glasgow G51 2UN,
 Scotland. Other zines by Linda C Wood are available through 'Spotlight'.

Zines from 'Spotlight - Leonard Nimoy International Fan Club'. CONTRAST 10 now available plus Carol Hart's DAY OF THE HAWK. £2.00 each, including postage. Please send orders to Carol Davies, 77 The Ridings, Ealing, London W5 3DP. Full list available on request.

VILLAGE PRESS ZINES. Rosemary Wild, Ed. All zines are based on the K/S premise, new readers please include age statement and statement that you understand and accept the premise.

IN THE WILDERNESS II The all story zine and the longest yet. A walk on Vulcan's wild side; a prestigious prize, police brutality; the terrors of Command Training; Sarek and Amanda; Kirk's Security Team and Kirk and Spock themselves fill 150 pages of fascinating revelations. U.K. £6.00, Europe £7.00, USA \$22.00, Canada \$9.00, Australia \$10.00.

THE VOICE A different kind of K/S, the Kirk and Spock of the series in a mature relationship. Warm, attractive characters, really original plots. (No slaves, pon farr or death.) Fiction by Stuart, Rivers, Daniels and Rows.

No.1, 2 each U.K. £3.50, Europe £4.00, USA \$12.50, Canada \$5.00, Australia \$6.00

No.3 U.K. £5.00, Europe £6.00, USA \$19.00, Canada \$7.50, Australia \$8.00

No.4 Includes a longer story from Stuart and Rivers. U.K. £5.50, Europe £6.50, USA \$19.50, Canada \$8.00, Australia \$8.50.

No.5 U.K. £5.50, Europe £6.50, USA \$19.50, Canada \$8.00, Australia \$8.50.

SURAK AWARD WINNER

IN THE WILDERNESS III seeks story contributions (no poetry or art yet). Editor treats all submissions with tender, loving care.

Eva Stuart is currently writing a longer story. Whichever is completed first will go to press but neither until early next year.

Mrs Rosemary Wild, "Cwm Croesor", Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hants SP6 2HG

(All prices inc. post and packing. Dollar cheques accepted. For US flyers and enquiries please include either 2 IRCs or \$1.00) ALL ORDERS DESPATCHED WITHIN TWO WEEKS OR LESS!

BSFR

NOISES IN THE ATTIC by Rosemary Senior. TNG novel. 60 pages. BSFR Members £3.45, Non-Members £3.95. Add 60 p&p.

GREEN FIRE by Jacqueline Comben BSFR Members £3.40 Non-members £3.90 The sequel AFTERGLOW should now be available. Write for details.

Other titles still available. Dave Uppington, BSFR Zines, 10 Wedgwood Close, Fortfield Green, Whitechurch, Bristol BS14 9YE.

MKASHEF ENTERPRISES

AS I DO THEE - an explicit K/S zine, stressing a loving, positive relationship; no undue violence, mayhem, slavery, torture or death. Nos. 1 - 3, \$22.00 each airmail; No. 4, 5, \$25.00 each; Nos. 6 - 14, \$22.00 each; No. 15, \$25.00; No. 16, \$22.00.

SHADOWS IN THE RAIN and other K/S stories - a collection of explicit K/S stories written by Dovya Blaque, Faris Vincent and Arlan Symons, reprinted from As I Do Thee, Naked Times, Fever, Charisma, First Time. \$22.00 airmail. SHADES OF GREY: an explicit K/S 'menage a trois' zine. No. 1, \$22.00; Nos 2-5, \$25.00 each.

IN TRIPPLICATE: A post ST:TWO story told in three parts. What if the Fal Tor Pan wasn't completely successful and McCoy was still mentally connected to Spock? And what if Kirk and Spock were only just beginning to realise their feelings for one another? \$15.00 airmail. ACT FIVE: (K/S) Nos 1, 2 and 'Fantasies' \$20.00 each, airmail. A GATHERING OF BLAQUE (K/S) - 4 stories and poetry by Dovya Blaque. \$16.00 airmail. ALEXI - a K/S novel by Sharon Pillsbury. Kirk, Spock and McCoy go in search of the notorious criminal 'Alexi' and find intrigue, surprise and love along the way. Art by Deeb. \$24.00 airmail.

Non-Trek zines:
A SECRET PLACE: an adult zine based on the TV show "Beauty and the Beast". Very adult in nature. Nos 1-7 \$23.00 each. PRISONERS OF THE NIGHT: An erotic vampire anthology of original characters. Nos 1 - 4 \$20.00 each. No 5 accepting submissions through 1st April 1991 SAE + 2 IRCs for guidelines before submitting. DYAD: A multi-media "/" zine. Nos 1 - 4 \$20.00 each. Dyad will not accept K/S, ST:TNG or Professionals. US currency only. Please include an age statement when ordering any "adult" material. K/S will not be sold to anyone under the age of 18. Accepting submissions for all zines continuously. Mkashef Enterprises, PO Box 368,

Poway, CA 92064-0005, USA.

Kathleen Resch

K/S zines - age statement required

T'HY'LA 9 - new. Stories by Eva Stuart, Vivian Gates, Greta Foulard, Natasha Barry, Susan Douglass; art by Chris Soto, Deeb Cairns, Lori Lee and others; colour cover by Gayle Feyrer. T'HY'LA 1, 3-5, 7-9 (short stories) \$24.00 each, air, \$20.00 each surface; No. 2, novel 'The Things I Cannot Change' \$24.00 air, \$20.00 surface; No. 6, \$18.00 air, \$15.00 surface. No. 10 is open for submissions; BEFORE THE GLORY (short stories) \$24.00 air; DAY OF VENGEANCE, novel by Jean Lightfoot and C Del Rio, \$19.00 air; THE PRICE OF FREEDOM - novel by Jean Lightfoot. What is the true meaning of non-emotion? Spock has disappeared; Kirk risks both life and career to find him - but when he does, he finds a drug-addicted stranger... \$26.00 air, \$20.00 surface. BLAKE'S SEVEN zines - THE LAST, BEST HOPE - novel by Melody Clark, a post-GP novel. \$20.00 air. THE LONG WAY BACK (A/B) - sequel to above. AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED \$21.00 air. FIRE AND ICE - all Avon/Blake stories. AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED. \$24.00 air, \$20.00 surface. Zines from other fandoms - MASK: TALES FROM THE UNDERGROUND (BEAUTY AND THE BEAST/PHANTOM OF THE OPERA) \$24.00 air, and DARK SHADOWS zines. Kathleen Resch. PO Box 1766, Temple City, CA 91780, USA.

THE SMALL PRINTERS

HOOPS OF STEEL by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £4.25 inclusive of p&p. Star Trek and Professional zines, new and reprinted. SAE for prices and availability to L R Muir, 1 Moor Park Avenue, Leeds LS6 4BT.

HIATUS PRESS

A LEGEND BEGINS by Barbara Alleyn. A biography of the early life of James T. Kirk. 200+ pages. Printed on A5 with card covers and spiral bound. Price £5.00 inc postage US price \$14.00 inc postage. Cheques should be made payable to Barbara E. Elams. Hiatus Press, Flat 2, 32 St Mary's Road, London SE15 2DW

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS by Sue Embury. How was it that Kirk, Spock and McCoy were leading such separate lives at the start of TMP? Price; U.K. £3.95; Europe £4.95; Australia £8.95; U.S.A. \$14.95 air, \$11.95 surface. For each copy sold 50p will be donated to IDIC guide dog fund. Order from Sue Embury, Lower Bailea, Tregare, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4JL.

PAGE'S PRESS

GENERATION GAP 4 - Celebrate Star Trek's 25th anniversary with an all new issue. Needed: stories, poems and artwork from both Original and TNG for GG 4. No K/S, we are a family-oriented zine. Stories should 20 pages or less in length, double spaced, printed or typed. If you would like stories returned please send correct return postage or we will keep it for our files. Deadline date, April 1st, 1991 (note change from last IDIC newsletter). Generation Gap 1, 2 & 3 are all sold out. Send items to: Page's Press, 2611 Silverside Rd, Wilmington, DE 19810, USA.

LONE STAR TREK (hurt-comfort/action-adventure). No. 1 \$20 OS Airmail, No.2 \$25 OS Airmail, No.3 (available March 1991), classic Trek and TNG stories. Kirk and Sarek evaluate Kzinti readiness to join the Federation; an alien energy web traps ships from all over the galaxy; Troi confronts Riker about their previous relationship; and others. \$25 OS airmail, \$18 USA, \$19 Canada. LoneStar Trek, c/o Laurie Haynes/Jan Meek, P.O. Box 189, DeRidder, LA 70634, USA.

T-Z-S Ent Inc.

Submissions (& artwork) are sought for a new American-style K/S zine for publication this December (or sooner!). Classic Trek/TNG but anything considered as long as it's raunchy, interesting or amusing. Please send SAE for info to T-Z-S Ent Inc., 124 Rosslyn St., Aigburth, Liverpool, Merseyside L17 7DP

AIRWAVES, multi-media zine with topics ranging from A-Team, Galactica, Blake's 7, Dr. Who, The Equalizer, Robin of Sherwood, Beauty and the Beast, Professionals,

Knight Rider, Airwolf, The Bill, Miami Vice etc. Submissions always welcome, no limits to length but no 'Adult' fiction, please! Free copy of zine to all contributors. Zines are computer printed, with photocopied photo covers, 65 plus pages per issue. SAE for details and availability/contents.

KNIGHT 2000 a Knight Rider based zine. 60 plus pages per issue, photocopied photo covers (some stories are cross overs between Knight Rider and other shows, ie, Magnum, Murder She Wrote, Street Hawk) 14 issues currently in print. Flyer available. Submissions always welcome.

FLIGHT INTO SLAVERY: Battlestar Galactica & Blake's 7 crossover story. Now available as computer reprint. Photocopied photo cover. 59 pages.

THE HOODED MAN: An "Airwaves" Robin of Sherwood special - predominantly Jason Connery. Computer printed, with photocopied photo cover. Issues 1 and 2 now available, (three interlinked stories in each issue). Issue 3 available late '90.

Prices for Airwaves/Knight 2000/Flight Into Slavery and Hooded Man: £2.50 per issue incl. postage. Overseas: £6.00 incl airmail, Europe: £4.00. (USA, currency accepted) IMO/bank drafts must be in sterling. Cheques in dollars or Eurocheques cannot be accepted. Order from: Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

STAGE STRUCK - an occasional series of interviews with actors. No. 2, Beauty, Royalty and Genius - a rare interview with Derek Jacobi. A 28-page insight into one of Britain's leading actors, containing 11 pages of photographs from his stage and television work, including I, Claudius, Breaking the Code, Hamlet, and his latest stage success, Kean. Send £2.50 plus 40p p&p (Europe 70p, elsewhere £1.80) for each copy required. Foreign orders must be in British currency. Make cheques payable to P.M. Clarke. Order from Ms. Y. Parkin, 44 Wimslow Close, Redesdale Park, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear NE28 8TB, England. Sold in aid of the British Diabetic Association.

LOCAL GROUP NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

Note: Local groups are mainly social groups and don't put out newsletters unless specified.

LEEDS STARFLEET: SAE to Mike Mullen, 25 Claremont Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6 4EB. Meetings (incl. video programme) are held between 12 and 5pm on the following Sundays at the Headingley Community Centre, North Lane, Leeds: April 14th, May 19th, June 16th, July 14 and August 18th, 1991.

THE AWAY TEAM: Glasgow Star Trek Local Group. Meetings every 6-9 weeks, news sheet **STATIC INTERFERENCE**. SAE for info to Catherine Melrose, 127 Medwyn Street, Glasgow G14 9QJ

Attention - One Day Mini-Con Saturday 20th April, 1991. 10.00 am until 10.00 pm. Room 7, Partick Burgh Hall, Glasgow. 2 video rooms (TNG in one, Classic Trek plus some media shows in the other) and a sales room. £4 adults, £2. children.

THE LANDING PARTY: A local group based in the south east of Scotland. Regular meetings - varied activities. The group can be contacted at: 11/4 Meadowfield Court, Edinburgh EH8 7NA. Please enclose an SAE.

N.C.C. 1711 Lively social meetings held monthly, roleplaying, games, Starfleet Battles, our own play by mail game and we produce our own newsletter. Contact: Mr. M Norris, Flat 3 Sussex Mansions, 40 Sussex Square, Brighton, Sussex BN2 5AD.

NOTTINGHAM STAR TREK GROUP meets on the first Wednesday of every month at Byrons (near Trinity Square/Central Police Station) in the city centre from about 7.30pm onwards. Write or ring Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham, tel. no. 80602 296323 for further info and confirmation of meeting dates.

VIENNESE LOCAL GROUP: Karin Embacher, Heiligenstadter Strasse 146/1/2, A-1190 Vienna, Austria. Tel. (0222) 37 17 704
If any IDIC members are in Vienna contact Karin.

THE OUTER ZONE: Local science fiction group. SAE to Sue Parker, THE OUTER ZONE, 12 Victoria Street, Brighton, Sussex BN1 3FQ.

ROLE-PLAYERS WANTED: Are there any fellow role-players in the Portsmouth/Southampton area interested in playing/gm-ing Star Trek, Star Wars, Living Steel, Space:1889 and Twilight:2000? Contact Steve Davies at 11 Kings Road, Fareham, Hants, PO16 0NX or phone (0329) 230792 for details. Sorry, serious RPGers only'

CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/GROUPS

CONVENTIONS / GET-TOGETHERS

CON-COURSE II - The 2nd North-German Star Trek Convention. 26th-28th April, 1991. Youthhotel Hamburg-Horn. Guest: Richard Arnold, ST-guest to be announced. Registration: 120,- DM (ca. 40,- UK pounds) Room rates: 75,- DM (ca. 25,- UK pounds) for 2 nights, 95,- DM for 3 (ca. 32,- UK pounds) incl. full meals. Rooms for six people each. SAE + 1 International Reply Coupon to: Dagmar Trutzel, Winterhuder Weg 67, 2000 Hamburg 76, West Germany.

UFP '91 The 31st British Star Trek Convention May 3rd - 6th 1991. Grand Hotel, Birmingham. Overflow hotel, Penguin. Registration £25 for 4 days. Hotel Rate: £22.50 per person, per night. Videos being shown from noon Friday. Nearby open-air car park; also NCP car parks. Due to unprecedented demand for places, UFP regrets that there will be NO registrations on the door. You must be pre-registered. We also recommend that if you are intending to come you register as soon as possible. We may have to close registrations before May. The main hotel has been full for some time and the overflow is also almost full. We are negotiating for a third overflow but this will be slightly further away although still within walking distance. SAE for details to Roz and Dave Liddle, 61 The Scotchhill, Kersley, Coventry, West Midlands CV6 2EW

CONSTITUTION 5th - 7th July '91 at Donnington Manor Hotel, London Road, Dunton Green, Sevenoaks, Kent TN1 2TD. Organised by the Intrepid Star Trek fan club to commemorate Star Trek's 25th anniversary. Attractions include Friday Night party, Saturday Night Disco, Star Trek books, magazines and other merchandise for sale, a chance to see episodes from the series, the films and from Star Trek: the Next Generation, as well as other Science Fiction and Fantasy Films. Registration for the entire weekend will be £12.00 Adults (£8 children 5 -16 and OAPs); one day registrations will be £9.00 Adults (£5 Children and OAPs), under 5's Free. Overnight Accommodation is also available. Write for further details to: Colin & Mandie Taylor, 5 Seymour Walk, off Betsham Road, Swanscombe, Kent DA10 0NF.

Note: Constitution will have a Charity White Horta Stall, all proceeds being donated to the Ellenor Foundation, the Convention Charity. They are appealing for donations of any Trek-related items that can be used on the stall. All donations will be gratefully received and should be sent to Constitution, 65 Park Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 1ST.

SILVERCON '91 13-15 July 1991. Central Hotel, Glasgow. Guests: John de Lancie, Richard Arnold & Marnie Mosiman - Marnie was the female chorus member in the TNG episode Loud as a Whisper and also happens to be John de Lancie's wife. All subject to the usual professional commitments. This will be a non-stop convention, with round the clock fun and entertainment including video rooms, art & sales room, a role playing games room, disco, ceilidh (for Sassenachs, that's a Scottish knees-up!), competitions and games. Further

guests to be announced in due course.

Room Rates: £28.00 per person in twin/double, single room plus £10.00 supplement.

Rate includes VAT, Service and Breakfast.

Registration: £20.00 until April 30th, then £25.00. Children under 5 free, 5-14 years half price.

Please send SAE to: SILVERCON '91, c/o Lesley Atkinson, 2/2,5 Regent Moray Street, Glasgow G3 8AJ.

NE'A'DRIAR IV One day Star Trek Convention + on Saturday night a murder banquet (space limited, ticket only). Date: Night 27th July 1991 & Day 28th July 1991.

Venue: Shepperton Moat House, Shepperton, Middx.

Registration: Saturday & Sunday £8, Sunday only Jan-March £8.50, March-June £9.00,

- July 13th £9.50, on the door £10. For details and registration form please send

SAE to: Mrs Clair Saunders, 12 Saville Crescent, Ashford, Middx TW15 1SX.

CONDUIT The 32nd British Star Trek Convention 23rd - 26th August 1991.

Sasna's Hotel, Manchester.

Full Registration £25 (£30 on the door), Fri/Sat £15 Sun/Mon £15 (£20 on the door).

Room Rates: £24 PPPN in Twin/Double rooms, £32 PPPN in single rooms inclusive of breakfast and VAT.

Guest talks, video programmes, Dealers' Room, Games Room, Zine Library, Art Show, Fancy Dress, disco, theme party.

SAE to Tina Hewett, 65 Park Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1ST.

WARP THREE CONVENTION Nuernberg, Germany. August 23rd to 25th, 1991.

James Doohan will come to Germany!! Don't miss an "out of this world" weekend and celebrate 25 years of Star Trek together with Jim. Join us for our "old fashioned Star Trek Con". For more information please contact: Warp Three Convention, c/o Linda Junggunst, Maxfeldstr. 26, 8500 Nuernberg 10, Germany.

MIDCON '91 Holiday Inn, Leicester. 4th - 6th October, 1991.

Registration: £22.50 per person until June 30th. £30 per person from 1st July.

Accompanied Children: under 3 years FREE, under 14 years HALF PRICE.

Hotel Room Rates: Single Room £40 per night, Double/Twin £55 per night,

Triple Room £74.50 per night.

Midcon '91, 8 Ennerdale Close, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4TN.

SOL III '92. The 33rd British Star Trek Convention 1st - 4th May, 1992.

Venue: The Grand Hotel, Birmingham. Full Registration: £25.00. (Further details on request). Room rates: £25.00 per person per night, inclusive of VAT and full

English breakfast, and irrespective of type of room. Guest speakers (to be

announced); theme parties; disco; fancy dress; auctions; competitions; video

programmes beginning at noon on Friday. Nominated charity to be announced in the next issue of this newsletter. For further information and an application form,

please write to SOL III '92, c/o Heather Hillsden, 148 Reede Road, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8DX, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

REC-CON: The 34th British Star Trek Convention. 28th - 31st August, 1992

Guests to be confirmed. To be held at the Piccadilly Hotel, Manchester.

Registration until 6/5/1991 £23.00, after 6/5/1991 until 4/8/1992 £25.00.

Room rates £28 per person per night in Twin/Double rooms. £40.00 per person per night in single room. Contact: Tina Hewett, 65 Park Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 1ST.

IFT CONVENTION '92 9th-12th October 1992. Holiday Inn Leicester.

Guests to be confirmed. Convention Charity to be chosen.

PROGRAMME Video (Original/Next Generation), Art/Model Display, Dealers' Room

(Professional/Clubs), Competitions (Art/Fiction/poetry/Fancy Dress), Disco, Theme

Party, A KLINGON HUNT???? Further details send an SASE to; IFT CON '92, Fiona Barrowclough, 129 Westfield Road, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 3HN.

NON STAR TREK EVENTS

THE ELEVENTH LEONARD NIMOY CONVENTION: November 1st - 3rd, 1991, at the Stakis

Victoria Hotel, Nottingham. A programme of films spanning the career of Leonard Nimoy and including many rarely, if ever, seen in Britain.
Registration fee: £14.00. For form and full details, please send SAE to Carol Davies, 77 The Ridings, Ealing, London W5 3DP.

ARMADACON 3 Science Fiction & Fantasy Convention. 9th/10th November 1991
Astor Hotel, Elliot Street, The Hoe, Plymouth, Devon.
Guest to include Terry Pratchett, Ed Bishop*, Michael Keating*, Adrian Cole and Brian Lumley. (* subject to work commitments).
Registration: To 30th June £18.00, from 1st July 1991 £20.00.
For more details write to ArmadaCon 3, c/o 4 Gleneagle Avenue, Mannamead, Plymouth, Devon PL3 5HL. Tel: (0752) 267873.

FRIENDSHIP COLUMN

Friendship adverts will be printed in two consecutive newsletters.

I am 37 year old, mum to 2 teenage girls (both Trek mad also). I'm a great TNG fan, favourite character Picard, but I also like Riker, Data, 'Q', etc. My other hobbies include X-stitch embroidery, gardening, stamps, TV, reading and the absurdities of life in general! I'd love to hear from any female fans who'd care to write, who don't object to rambling letters! Mrs Cath Russell, Autumn, 4 Oakland Park, Sticklepath, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2BZ.

Help! I desperately seeking anyone I can write to who can lend me copies of 2nd, 3rd and 4th season TNG episodes. Matthew Spires, The Eyrie, Houndscroft Lane, Amberley, Stroud, Glos. GL5 5DG.

Gloria Fry would like to make contact with others in her age group, late 30's early 40's, in the Glasgow area, preferably original Trek fans - for conventions, outings etc. Gloria Fry, 16 Frankfort Street, Glasgow G41 3XG.

Carole Weatherill would like to hear from anyone over 40 who loves Kirk and K/S. Carole Weatherill, 8 St Margarets Grove, Twickenham, Middx TW1 1JG.

Penpal with the same interests wanted for 16 year old Next Generation fan. Big Denise Crosby fan. Other interests include Dr Who, Aliens, Karate (6th Kyu), Rock'n'Roll and doing artwork for zines. Any prospective black belts, Leonardo da Vincis or time travellers contact Ruth F. Mellor at 135 Lichfield Road, Stone, Staffs ST15 8QB.

I'm a 22 year old student nurse currently living in a nurses' home in Gwent, South Wales, looking for other Star Trek fans/SF fans to share a house/flat with. I like the original Star Trek the best (but enjoy the Next Generation also), I love astronomy, nature, archaeology, music, poetry and more. I'd welcome living with animals also! If you're interested please write to: Kari M. John, Room 21, Nurses's Home, Llanfrehfa Grange Hospital, Llanfrehfa, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 8TN.

Kari M John would like to meet other Star Trek fans living in Newport, Wales who are also interested in astronomy, anthropology, archaeology, animals, herbal medicines and more! Please write to: Kari M. John (address above.)

My name is Ewan and I would like a penpal who's interested in ST, old and new. I'm 20 years old, a banker to trade (but don't let that put you off!). My hobbies include football, music and many others. So if you're interested then get writing to: Ewan Chaimers, 10 Marchfield Place, New Elgin, Morayshire IV30 3YR.

SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts will be printed in two consecutive newsletters.

Please remember it is illegal to offer videos for sale, except for official copies

- although there is no law against asking. It is also in breach of copyright to advertise photocopies of zines, and unfair to request them, without the permission of the editor. Adverts will therefore be edited if necessary.

FOR SALE: Zine - Jean Lorrach's Collection. Brand new reprint. £4.00.
Marise Morland-Chapman, 12 Marsh Court, London Road, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1EW.

FOR SALE: 3 colour photos of Nichelle Nichols from adult magazine, also Star Trek magazines available. Please send SAE to Graham Probert, 38 Abertillery Road, Blaenau Gwent, South Wales NP3 3DW.

FOR SALE: Star Trek merchandise, both original series and Next Generation, including uniforms, books, models and figures, and lots more. If you are interested please contact me and enclose an SAE for merchandise details. Joanne Aylward, 54 Ascourt Drive, Hornsea, North Humberside HU18 1HF.

FOR SALE: SPOCK / PICARD designs on scarves. Head motif on each end. Also Holmes/Watson and Poirot. £7.50 each. Other designs considered depending on practicality. Enquiries to Mr. M. Simpson, 'Hambledon', Upperfields, LEDBURY, Herefordshire, HR8 1LE.

FOR SALE: Good condition ST books and zines, Tarot cards and other books for sale/swap. Helen Cakebread, 12 Banks Rd, Coudon, Coventry CV6 1JT.

FOR SALE: NEW LIST: ST and Leonard Nimoy items, including commercial videos, magazines, photos, slides, books etc. SAE to Simone Mason, Seranis, Danehill, West Sussex RH17 7JQ for full list.

WANTED: A copy of The Making of ST-TMP book. Reasonable price paid. Contact: Edward Woo, 553 Smithdown Road, Wavertree, Liverpool L15 5AF, Merseyside.

WANTED: Has anybody got Star Trek Animation Episodes 1A-22A, reasonable price paid. Also Red Dwarf season one episodes 1 - 6. Please contact Peter Hughes, Bryn Myfyr West End, Glan Conwy, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd LL28 5SY.

WANTED: A 24 hour loan of the TNG episode The Big Goodbye which was missed when screened due to a power cut. All postage incurred will be paid. Many thanks.
Dave Adams, 367 Spring Lane, Mapperley, Nottingham NG3 5RR. (Tel. (0602) 206573)

WANTED: A copy of the novel Star Trek Log 7 by Alan Dean Foster. Please State price. Dave Adams - address above.

WANTED: I have ST material for trade including in person photos. I am looking for anything on Jane Asher, no matter how small. Will give you ST material in exchange. Martha O'Connell, 1280 Coyote Creek Place, San Jose, CA 95116, USA.

WANTED: Any third or fourth season TNG episodes on video to borrow, especially The Best of Both Worlds Pts 1 & 2. UK Pal standard or USA NTSC it doesn't matter.
Russell Witheyman, 12 Whistler Close, Tilgate, Crawley, W. Sussex RH10 3DX.

WANTED: The two ST animated episodes How Sharper than the Serpent's Tooth and Counter-clock Incident which were not released by CIC. If you can help please contact E8202242, SAC J Tobin, Surv. Equip. Section, RAF Chivenor, Barnstaple, N. Devon EX

WANTED: TNG zines. I have the 4 Make It So issues plus Noises in the Attic. Are there any others? Reasonable prices paid. Mrs Cath Russell, Autumn, 4 Oakland Park, Sticklepath, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 2BZ.

WANTED: Videos of the Lord Peter Wimsey series. Liz Caldwell, 9 Bryn Llewelyn, Pant. Penrhyndeudraeth, Gwynedd LL48 6ND.

WANTED: Has anyone got a novel or video of the film Silent Running that I could buy

or borrow? - Thank you. Kari M. John, Room 21, Nurses's Home, Llanfrechfa Grange Hospital, Llanfrechfa, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 87N.

WANTED - Anything on De Forest Kelley (Trek/non-Trek related) eg articles, magazines, particularly an Enterprise Incidents edition of DeForest (if there is one.) Please write to Kari M John (address above).

WANTED: I am looking for the Star Trek series picture novel from Bantam Books - No 3, Metamorphosis - which I need to complete my collection. I have written to the publishers and they say it is out of print. David Paul Blount, 42 Cumberland Drive, Mansfield, Notts NG19 6LS

WANTED: Does anyone have a copy of the Star Trek Way to Management, or a title something like that? As far as I know it is an American book that was written ages ago about the Kirk style of management. Lynne Baxter, 29 North Street, Caversham, Reading RG4 8JA.

WANTED: Does anyone have a copy of Duet with the stories When Worlds Collide and Ring of Fire? I don't know which issue but it must be fairly old. Susan Burdfield, 5 Solent House, Redlands Lane, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 0TZ.

STAR TREK FAN CLUBS

If you would like a list and details of all the British Star Trek clubs we know about, plus some non ST clubs and conventions please write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 4" SAE plus an extra 17p stamp.

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

New clubs and/or updates:

SUBSPACE COMMUNICATIONS - Boldly go where no-one has gone before and join The 1st Star Trek Electronic Mail Club ever! All you need is access to an academic network (or anything similar linked to polytechnics) and E-mail me, Captain Eddie of U.S.S. Kingston, for details. My username is cs_al43 and I am at the following site uk.ac.king.ux (Kingston Polytechnic). The joining fee is FREE! Yes, it will cost you not one Federation Credit! Join now, you know it's the logical thing to do!

TEN FORWARD: Membership open to anyone with an interest in TNG. 3 A4 Newsletters per year. Sealed Membership card. Assignment to ship in the Ten Forward Fleet. Choose to be a Terran, Klingon, Romulan, Ferengi, Vulcan, Betazoid, Orion, Benzite or Andorian. Single and Family Memberships available: £3.50 single, £5.00 Family per annum. SAE for details to "Ten Forward", Fleet Command, 18 Beckwith Road, East Herringthorpe, Rotherham, S. Yorkshire S65 3PD. [Update]

Hello Star Trek Fans! A.S.T.A.F. is here, the Austrian Star Trek Association of Fans. Since January 1st Austria has its own Star Trek Fan Club. Our club committee consists of three Trekkers with many years of experience in Star Trek fandom. We were of the opinion that we had to do something to open a door to Star Trek here in Austria.

ASTAF publishes monthly newsletters (the first one was published in January). We also organize monthly meetings, where we have a lot of fun. We try to keep our members up-to-date and give them a lot of fun and amusement. For more information send SASE to A.S.T.A.F., P.O.B. 365, A-1211 Vienna, Austria. We would be very happy to welcome you on board.

THE KLINGON ASSAULT GROUP EUROPE Membership open to anyone who is or wants to be a Klingon. Choice of working for various sections of the Klingon Empire. You must have what it takes to be one of the Warrior Elite. Membership fee £2 - 3 n/Is per year. For more info send SAE to Commander Kraul Vestai-Krasson, 16 Bramwell St., Eastwood, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S65 1RZ.

ACTOR FAN CLUBS

DEFOREST KELLEY INTERNATIONAL APPRECIATION SOCIETY: Lynn Campion, 54 Streathleigh Court, Streatham High Road, Streatham, London, SW16 1EG.

"G.H.T": George Takei's Official Worldwide Fan Club. For details send SASE/IRCs (for overseas), to: Ena Glogowska, 62 Southbank Street, Leek, Staffs. ST13 5LN, England.

GHT - George Takei American Friendship Club seeks membership from American and Canadian fans of George Takei. For flyer send SASE to the club's address below. In association with the GHT Official Worldwide Fan Club. All other aliens write to GHT OWFC. Thanks for your support. GHT American Friendship Club, 2611 Silverside Rd, Wilmington, DE 19810, USA.

SPOTLIGHT - LEONARD NIMOY INTERNATIONAL FAN CLUB: Four newsletters per year. For details send SAE to Carol Davies, 77 The Ridings, Ealing, London W5 3DP.

WALTER KOENIG INTERNATIONAL: US Club, UK Contact: Pam Clarke, 15 Reedsmouth Place, Fenham, Newcastle Upon Tyne NE5 2HQ.

INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE ALLIANCE FOR PATRICK STEWART - STARGAZER: Quarterly zine N/L covering the actor's career from Stratford to Star Trek. UK dues: \$24.00 per year surface mail. Contact Kate Maynard, 1411 Colonial Ave. No. B-5, Norfolk, VA 23517, USA. British fans write to Pat Mitchell, 38 Ashbourne Grove, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 4JU for more info. Please enclose an SAE.

NDC - This is an appreciation society for Guy Vardaman, run with his consent. For further details please write enclosing an SAE to Rowena Sayer, 111 Farndale Avenue, Palmers Green, London N13 5AJ.

FRIENDS OF NICHELLE NICHOLS, PO Box 1051, Silver Springs, MD 20910, USA.

IMZADI (Marina Sirtis Official & Authorized newsletter.)
c/o William S. McCullars, 3084 Chastain Park Court, Atlanta, GA 30342. USA.

ELECTRONIC MALE(Brent Spiner/Data newsletter): Mary Jane Keao, 3501 Pin Oak No. 1518, San Antonio, TX 78229, USA.

WILLIAM SHATNER FELLOWSHIP Helen E. Molloy, 10940 North Moorpark, North Hollywood, CA 91602, USA.

FRIENDS, FANS AND FOLLOWERS OF JONATHAN FRAKES Suite 214, 145A Danbury Road, New Milford, CT06776, USA. Quarterly newsletter.

GERMAN FRIENDS OF DEFOREST KELLEY German club which produces 4 Newsletters, 1 Fanzine and 1 Yearbook per year. The club also prints an English issue of their publications. Dues: Germany 25,00 DM, UK £9, USA \$15. Please make cheques payable to Mrs Claudia Weissmann-Stahl, Kutzerstrasse 9, 8510 Furth, W. Germany.

Hello everybody! The German Friends of DeForest Kelley wish to support the Luke Kelly Memorial Fund for Brain Research. We think that brain research is a very important thing. So many lives depend on the progress of this research. It is necessary to find the proper methods of surgery and treatment for all the afflicted people to lead a life with human dignity. So we write everybody to support us with a little donation of money. You can send it to GFODFK, c/o Claudia Weissmann-Stahl (address above). We thank you very much for your consideration!!

FANS OF MARK LENARD A new unofficial club starting up in January 1991. Get in at the start - send an SAE plus IRC to Michelle Perry, 11 Park Drive, Napanee, Ontario, K7R 2Z3 Canada for information.

SCIENCE FICTION BOOKSHOPS

These shops sell science fiction, fantasy, Star Trek and media books and they have a mail-order service.

ANDROMEDA BOOKSHOP, 84 Suffolk St. Birmingham B1 1TA. For free catalogue send 4"x9" SAE. Wide selection of SF & ST books.

AT THE SIGN OF THE DRAGON, 131 Sheen Lane, East Sheen, London SW14 8AE. 6"x9" SAE for more info. Wide selection of SF & ST books; flexible standing order system.

FINAL FRONTIER BOOKSHOP, 43/44 Silver Arcade, Leicester LE1 5FB. Send large SAE for list.

THE SHEFFIELD SPACE CENTRE, 33 The Wicker, Sheffield S3 8HS. ST paperbacks, Lincoln patches & insignia etc., Collectors' plates & mugs, Videos, Models, Photographs and Posters. (Also Mail order, SAE for catalogue (same size as newsletter).)

LINCOLN ENTERPRISES, P.O. Box 691370, Los Angeles, CA 90069, U.S.A. Send a couple of International Reply Coupons for their latest colour catalogue. It will probably be sent surface and take 6 weeks or more to arrive but it is worth waiting for as Lincoln has just about everything a ST and TNG collector could wish for.

INTERGALACTIC TRADING CO. INC. P.O. Box 1516, Longwood, FL 32752-1516, USA. Star Trek and other Media. Send a couple of IRCs for their current part colour catalogue. They accept credit cards.

The deadline for submissions (articles, reviews, ads, etc) for the next newsletter is May 15th. Please send everything to Janet unless otherwise specified.

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The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions/Renewals; anything for the newsletter including ads, articles, letters etc.; used stamps for The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Sheila - All zine orders.

Sheila or Valerie - Submissions of stories, poetry & artwork for zines; used stamps.

Helen - Submissions of crosswords, quizzes etc.

Note: it is okay to send newsletter items to Sheila or Valerie as long as they receive them at least 10 days prior to the deadline.

Committee Addresses:

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Dues UK £6.00, USA/Middle East Air \$22.000 (£10.80), Australia £11.40, Europe £8.50.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

This is a statutory notice as prescribed by the above Act. In accordance with the conditions governing the maintenance of machine-readable records by non-incorporated members' clubs, IDIC must advise that the names and addresses of every member are held in a computer-readable format in order to more efficiently prepare and despatch newsletters. The information is used for this purpose only, and will not be disclosed to any other party whatsoever without the specific consent of the Data Subject (i.e. the member concerned). You should also be aware that you have a statutory right for your name to be deleted from the computer record and for your newsletters to be addressed manually.

CONTENTS

Actor Info	7	Merchandise	6
All Our Yesterdays	43	My Kind of Trek	50
Anagram	55	Omicron Ceti Menu	56
Anagram Answers	58	Postbag	9
A Sea of Faces	46	Sequels	56
Book & Video Reviews	66	Sherlock Holmes Connection	45
Classic Trek Review	58	Star Trek in the News	5
Con Ads/General Ads	81	ST:TNG Episode Reviews	59
Connections in Star Trek	40	To Find the Mind's Construction	48
IDIC's Personnel File	50	Which Enterprise?	41
James Blish Paperbacks	55	Wormhole	54
James Horner	8	Wormhole Answers	58
Klingon Fight	44	Zine Ads	75
Latest Star Trek News	4	Zines - New Zines	74
Local Group News	80	Zine Reviews	72

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